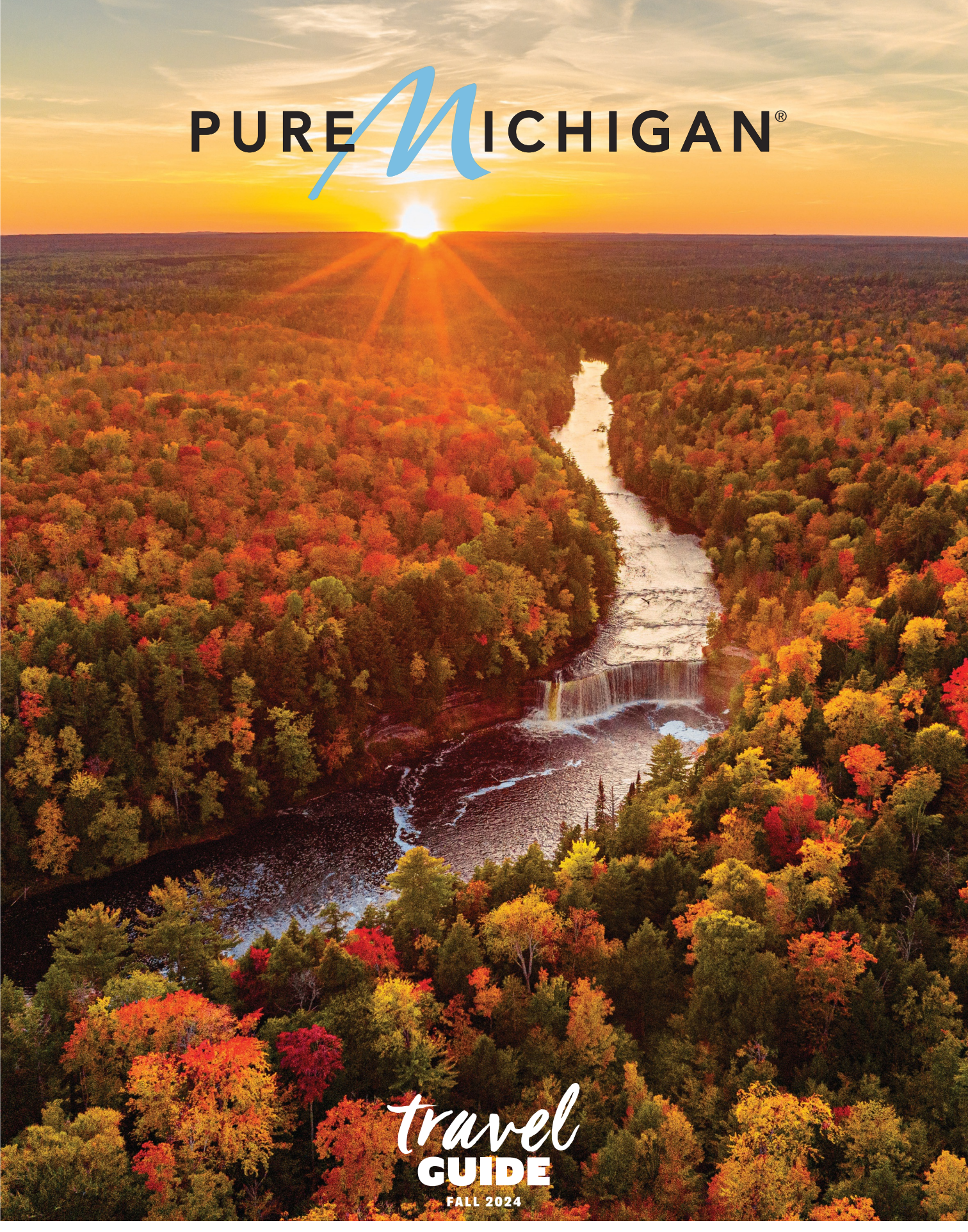


WOODS & WATERS • CITIES & CULTURE • AUTUMN ACTIVITIES

Find your
ESCAPE
south haven
ON LAKE MICHIGAN
Plan your escape at southhaven.org

contents

FALL 2024

DEPARTMENTS

3 WOODS AND WATERS

4 U-PICK THE FUN

6 AUTUMN ON THE STRAITS

10 Z'S BETWEEN THE TREES

13 CITIES AND CULTURE

14 ROAD-TRIP WORTHY

16 TRIFECTA OF TOWNS

20 OUTDOORS AFTER DARK

DIGITAL EDITION

To access a mobile-optimized version, visit *michigan.org*

FEATURES

22 TOP AUTUMN ACTIVITIES
Celebrate the season by visiting a haunted lighthouse, attending a football game, picking apples and so much more.

28 GET SOME ALTITUDE
Hike, climb, ride, cross and soar to new heights surrounded by over-the-top fall foliage.

ON THE COVER

Tahquamenon Falls State Park, Paradise
Photographer: Aaron Peterson

PURE MICHIGAN

TRAVEL MICHIGAN
300 N. Washington Square
Lansing, Michigan 48913
888/784-7328
michigan.org

INTERIM VICE PRESIDENT
Kelly Wolgamott

PUBLICATIONS SPECIALIST
Robin Peebles

DOTDASH MEREDITH TRAVEL • MARKETING + CONTENT

EDITORIAL DIRECTOR
Kylee Krizmanic

EXECUTIVE EDITOR
Brian Kramer

EDITOR, CUSTOM MEDIA
Kristin Bienert

ASSOCIATE CREATIVE DIRECTOR
Matt Zack

DEPUTY ART DIRECTOR
John Meek

SENIOR EDITOR
Gary Thompson

COPY EDITOR
Diane Penningroth

CONTRIBUTOR
Christine Hoskin

PUBLISHER
Mark Josephson

NATIONAL TRAVEL DIRECTOR
Katy Hildman

ADVERTISING SALES
Richard Konopaske
269/965-3134

Dotdash meredith

Arcadia Dunes, Arcadia

/PureMichigan /PureMichigan /PureMichigan /PureMichigan /PureMichigan /PureMichigan

PHOTOGRAPH: STARBOARD AND PORT

THE UPPER PENINSULA
MICHIGAN
NORTHERN LIGHTS • LAKE SUPERIOR
Break the routine
uptravel.com

WOODS AND WATERS

Tree Vistas, Ionia

Lake Shore Resort, Saugatuck

PHOTOGRAPHS: (WOODS) STARBOARD AND PORT, (RESORT) RYAN DONNELL

BOUNTY OF BEAUTY

Michigan's autumn blessings are as numerous as the *grains of sand* along its Great Lakes and the *countless leaves* that fall from its billions of trees. You can *captivate your senses* with an invigorating stroll on a beach, a relaxing float on the water or a cozy overnight in a forest. Don't miss your chance to drive under a spectacular *canopy of color* or taste the tart treats from orchards and cideries.

FROM TOP LEFT
Crane Orchards, Fennville; Blake's Orchard and Cider Mill, Armada; Kackleberry Farms, Monroe

U-PICK *the* FUN

Romping through corn mazes, finding the perfect pumpkin in the patch and partaking in a bevy of other autumnal activities make visits to these Michigan orchards and farms memorable—even more so if you bring home a peck of fresh-picked apples.

CRANE ORCHARDS
Fennville

Relax during a tractor-driven hayride around the property, then wander the 20-acre corn maze. The staff plans and plants a new design each year, stumping perennial visitors.

ROBINETTE'S APPLE HAUS AND WINERY
Grand Rapids

After finding your way through the 6.5-acre corn maze and jumping on the pillow, refuel on pumpkin-spiced doughnuts before taking a horse-drawn wagon ride.

BLAKE'S ORCHARD AND CIDER MILL
Armada

Inflatable axe throwing. A petting farm. Obstacle courses. Blake's Funland taps into your family's competitive side, though you'll need to use teamwork to make it through the corn maze.

UNCLE JOHN'S CIDER MILL
St. Johns

Squeals of delight ring out as kids leap on the jumping pillow and discover treasure at the gemstone mining station. Board the miniature train to ride around the pumpkin patch and orchard. Toot, toot!

KACKLEBERRY FARMS
Monroe

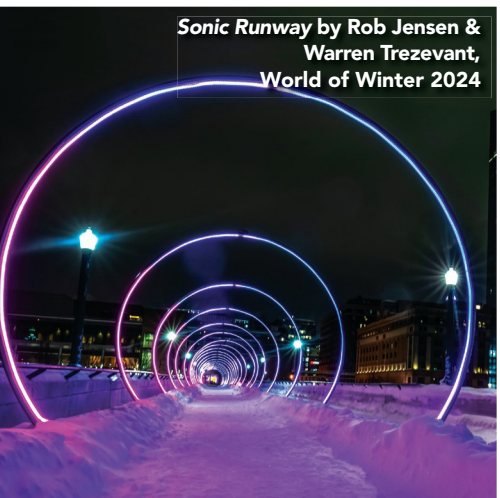
After gliding down the Super-Mega Slide and firing apples from an Apple Blaster, snack on cider doughnuts, listen to live music, visit farm animals, tackle the corn maze and pick a pumpkin.

STORY: ANGELA UFHEIL. PHOTOGRAPHS: (ORCHARD) ACKERMAN AND GRUBER, (GOATS) COURTESY OF BLAKE'S ORCHARD AND CIDER MILL, (SLIDE) COURTESY OF KACKLEBERRY FARMS

DREAM GRAND AND GO

Raining Wisdom by Abdoulaye Conde, ArtPrize 2023

GRAND RAPIDS ExperienceGR.com



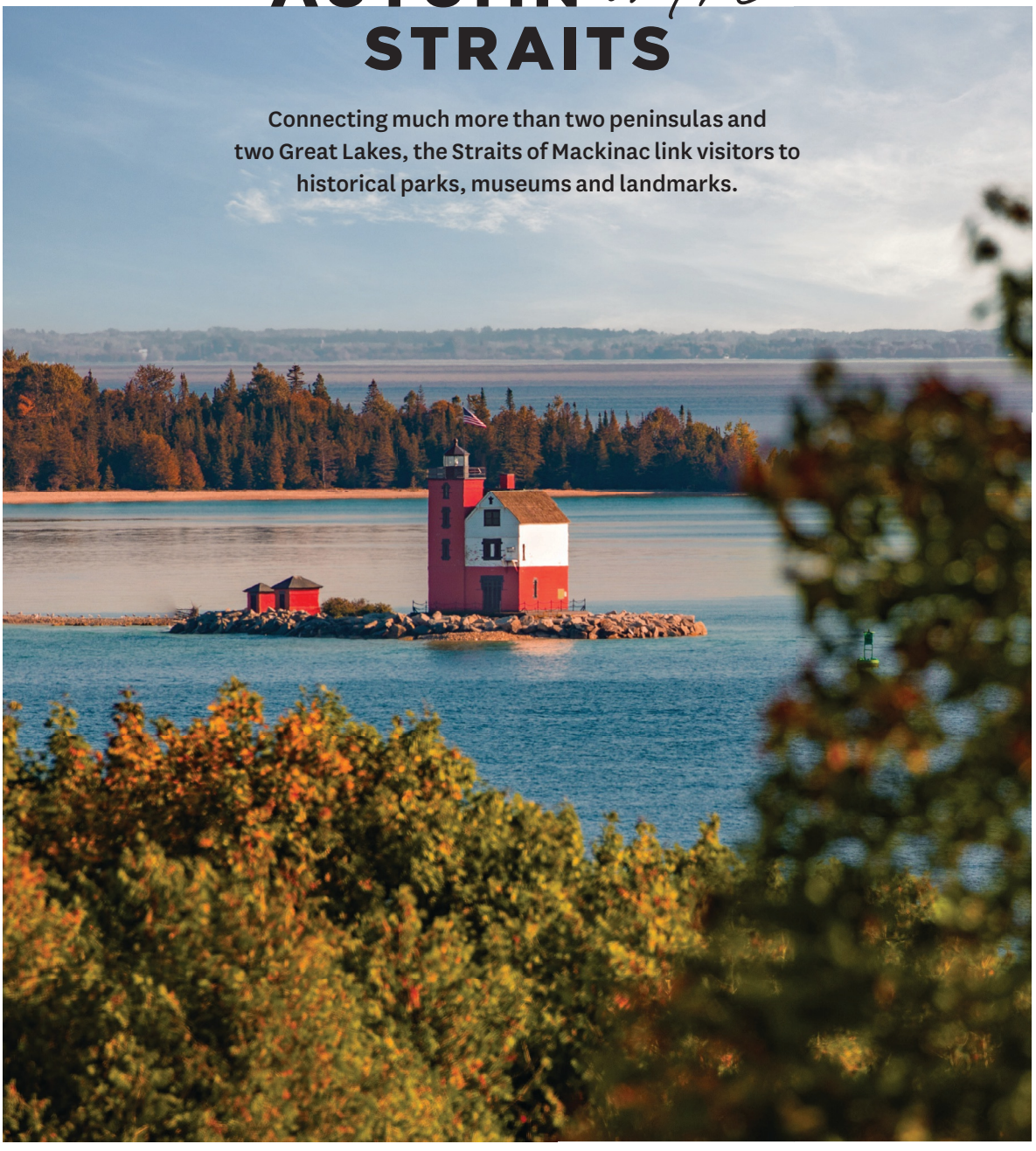
Sonic Runway by Rob Jensen & Warren Trezevant, World of Winter 2024

Top 10 U.S. City to See Amazing Art

USA Today, 2023

AUTUMN *on the* STRAITS

Connecting much more than two peninsulas and two Great Lakes, the Straits of Mackinac link visitors to historical parks, museums and landmarks.



Round Island Lighthouse, Straits of Mackinac

On many highway road trips, 5 miles simply means "just five minutes away." Elevated above two Great Lakes in Michigan, this distance looks and feels like endless possibilities. The iconic 5-mile-long Mackinac Bridge links the Lower Peninsula to the wild Upper Peninsula, with remote Mackinac Island and lesser-known isles dotting the eastern horizon. When fall colors splash down in this magical realm, every which way leads to vibrant discoveries.

STORY: TREE MEINCH. PHOTOGRAPH: SARA WRIGHT

TAKE IN THE CHANGE

Embrace the beauty of Ludington as this charming lakeside community transforms into a picturesque playground during the Fall and Winter months. As a haven for relaxation and adventure, Ludington offers a unique blend of natural splendor and festive charm. From the vibrant hues of autumn leaves to the serene whites of winter snow, there's always a reason to explore. Traverse scenic trails through dunes and lush forests, engage in delightful seasonal events, and unwind in our cozy accommodations. Whether you're seeking a peaceful autumn retreat or a snowy escape, Ludington invites you to experience the magic of the changing seasons in Pure Ludington!

PURE**LUDINGTON**.COM

Les Cheneaux Islands

ON THE UPPER PENINSULA

Explore several sculptures that depict daily activities, such as a woman gathering berries, at the Anishinaabe Sculpture Park before stepping inside of the **Museum of Ojibwa Culture** in St. Ignace. The village of waterfront walks and ferry docks embodies French and Indigenous DNA as one of the oldest continuous settlements in the United States. For a farther-flung expedition 30 minutes northeast, explore Lake Huron's Les Cheneaux Islands with a kayak paddling trip led by Hessel's **Woods and Waters** through September.

ON THE LOWER PENINSULA

Mackinaw City marks the northernmost town before the watery straits. At **Historic Mill Creek,** witness a smaller water source channeled to saw through timber—while the lush tree canopy beckons you on a zipline flight. Nearby, some 60 years of ongoing archaeological excavation inform the re-created 18th-century fort and trading post at **Colonial Michilimackinac.** You'll want a hotel room in town to savor it all.

ON MACKINAC ISLAND

Mackinac Island State Park covers 80 percent of this car-free paradise. And the island's rental bike population nearly triples the full-time human residents (about 500). To balance out your hours of hiking, biking and wandering through outdoor scenery, venture downtown and dine on pan-fried walleye at the Grand Hotel's **Woods Restaurant,** Jamaican-inspired fare at **Kingston Kitchen at the Village Inn,** and all the fudge you could want from the island's 13 fudge shops.

Colonial Michilimackinac, Mackinaw City

Mackinac Island

PHOTOGRAPHS: (KAYAKERS) AARON PETERSON, (COLONIAL MICHILIMACKINAC) STARBOARD AND PORT, (DOWNTOWN) JOHN NOLTNER

When your business is in Michigan, **our business is you.**

Book direct and pay in advance to save up to 15%.*
Visit ChoiceHotels.com/Michigan-Hotels or call
1-888-228-5050 to get our lowest price guaranteed.**

CHOICE HOTELS Our business is you.™

Ascend · CAMBRIA · Comfort · Sleep · Quality · Clarion · clarion pointe · MainStay Suites · Woodspring Suites · Suburban · EconoLodge · Rodeway Inn

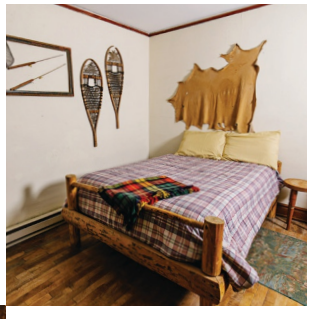
CHOICE privileges

*Rate Restrictions: Valid only for Choice Privileges members (program enrollment is free). The reservation must be made on ChoiceHotels.com at participating hotels and must be made at least 7, 14, 21 or 30 days in advance, which will vary based on the hotel for which a reservation is being made. Subject to availability, the rate starts at 15% off Best Available Rate, is non-cancellable, non-changeable and non-refundable. Your credit card will be charged for the total reservation amount within 24-48 hours of booking. This rate has a seven (7) night maximum length of stay. Rooms at this discount are limited. Offer is not available to groups and cannot be combined with any other discount. Choice Hotels reserves the right to change or discontinue this offer at any time. Eligibility restricted to U.S. and Canadian residents. Members must book direct at ChoiceHotels.com/Michigan-Hotels or call 1-888-228-5050. All Choice Hotels properties are independently owned and operated. **Guarantee applies to Third Party Website standard rates for a Choice single or double occupancy room that are at least 1% and $1.00 less than the Choice rate. Claims must be submitted within 24 hours of booking and 48+ hours prior to 6 PM check-in time the day of hotel arrival. Other terms also apply; see www.choicehotels.com/legal/best-rate-rules for full terms and conditions. ©2019 Choice Hotels International. All rights reserved.

Z'S BETWEEN *the* TREES

Rustling leaves, chirping birds—even the tide lapping the shore. These four overnight options come with the most soothing of alarm clocks.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT
Tree Vistas, Ionia; North Branch Outing Club, Grayling; Lake Shore Resort, Saugatuck; Geodesic Domes, Port Crescent State Park



TREE VISTAS
Ionia

This tree house towering 13 feet above the forest floor blends simple pleasures, like a hammock and firepit, with a luxe glass shower, electric fireplace and other modern amenities.

NORTH BRANCH OUTING CLUB
Grayling

Pine, spruce and fir line the banks of the Au Sable River, known as a blue ribbon trout stream. After a day on the water, kick back at the historic lodge.

LAKE SHORE RESORT
Saugatuck

Gentle waves rock your resort-provided kayak as you watch the sun dip into Lake Michigan. Back on land, majestic trees surround the property, where you can roast marshmallows at the firepit before retiring to your room.

GEODESIC DOMES
Port Crescent State Park

After a day of strolling—or, when snow arrives, cross-country skiing—along the shores of Saginaw Bay, settle down in one of two spruce-paneled domes with skylights for a stargazing session.

STORY: ANGELA UFHEIL. PHOTOGRAPHS: (TREE HOUSE) STARBOARD AND PORT, (INTERIOR) SARA WRIGHT, (RESORT) RYAN DONNELL, (GEO DOME) MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

INDULGE *with us*

Discover country roads drenched with bright fall colors. Gather crisp, juicy apples, plump pumpkins, hearty soup vegetables and handmade pies from our farms and markets. Sip craft wines, beers, ciders and spirits. Then stay for a Lake Michigan sunset and more autumn joys.

Southwest MICHIGAN
BENTON HARBOR • SAINT JOSEPH
SWMICHIGAN.ORG

PHOTO: LEHMAN'S ORCHARD, NILES

18935 15 1/2 Mile Road, Marshall, MI 49068
269-781-4293

www.turkeyville.com
800-228-4315

Cornwell's
TURKEYVILLE U.S.A.®

Start in Ann Arbor and go from there.

The Ann Arbor area is home to seven distinct destinations — each connected by the unexpected (and each with a calendar full of fall events). Out here, you have room to roam where you can let your inner light shine. Simply step outside and start exploring, and you'll discover your **different kind of different.**

LEARN MORE AT ANNARBOR.ORG

ANN ARBOR

CITIES AND CULTURE

Petoskey

R.E. Olds Transportation Museum, Lansing

PHOTOGRAPHS: (PETOSKEY) KEVIN J. MIYAZAKI/REDUX; (AUTO) JOHNNY QUIRIN

TAKE A SENTIMENTAL JOURNEY

Fall for Michigan's charming small towns, where something *delightful* is bound to catch your eye, whether you're walking down a tree-lined street by day or gazing up to a *dazzling* night sky. In Detroit and other cities, shift gears to celebrate the state's *culture-changing* automobile heritage. Go on a little road trip to *discover* a bumper crop of destinations, rich in history and innovation.

ROAD-TRIP *worthy*

Classic car collections add an extra dose of cool to these museums and exhibitions capturing Michigan's automotive legacy.

FROM TOP
Gilmore Car Museum, Hickory Corners; Sloan Museum of Discovery, Flint

HENRY FORD MUSEUM OF AMERICAN INNOVATION AND GREENFIELD VILLAGE

Dearborn

Roll through transportation history aboard a horse-drawn shuttle, a steam-engine train, and in an original Model-T before touring the Ford Rogue plant that manufactures F-150 trucks.

SLOAN MUSEUM OF DISCOVERY

Flint

A 2022 renovation nearly doubled the size of the museum to add hands-on science, a regional history gallery and a vehicle gallery that showcases rare and historic vehicles from Flint's rich automotive manufacturing heritage from 1902 to 1990.

R.E. OLDS TRANSPORTATION MUSEUM

Lansing

You know about Henry Ford. Now meet Ransom Eli Olds, the namesake of the REO and Oldsmobile brands. Replicas of the inventor's late 19th-century automobiles and his sketches are museum highlights.

FORD PIQUETTE AVENUE PLANT MUSEUM

Detroit

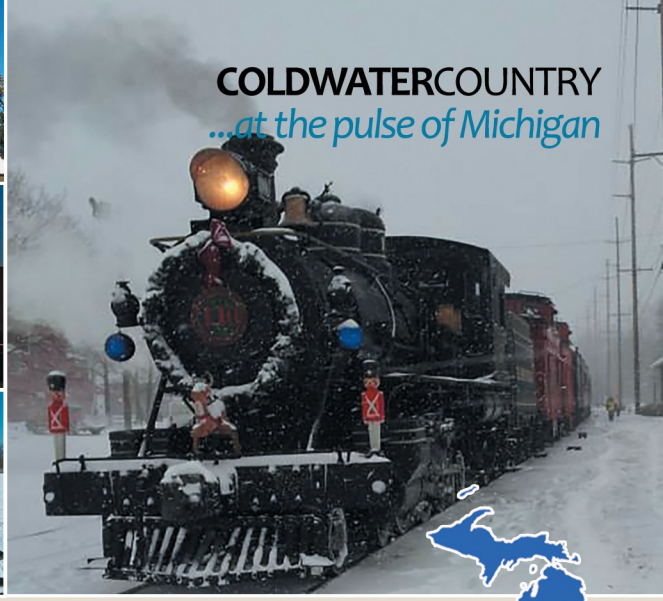
Stand in the Secret Experimental Room, where Henry Ford and his team invented the Model-T, on the third floor of this diminutive factory saved from demolition by a nonprofit.

GILMORE CAR MUSEUM

Hickory Corners

Experience the history of America through the automobile. The museum offers free Vintage Rides (Tuesdays–Fridays, through September) in cars like the 1964 Checker Taxi.

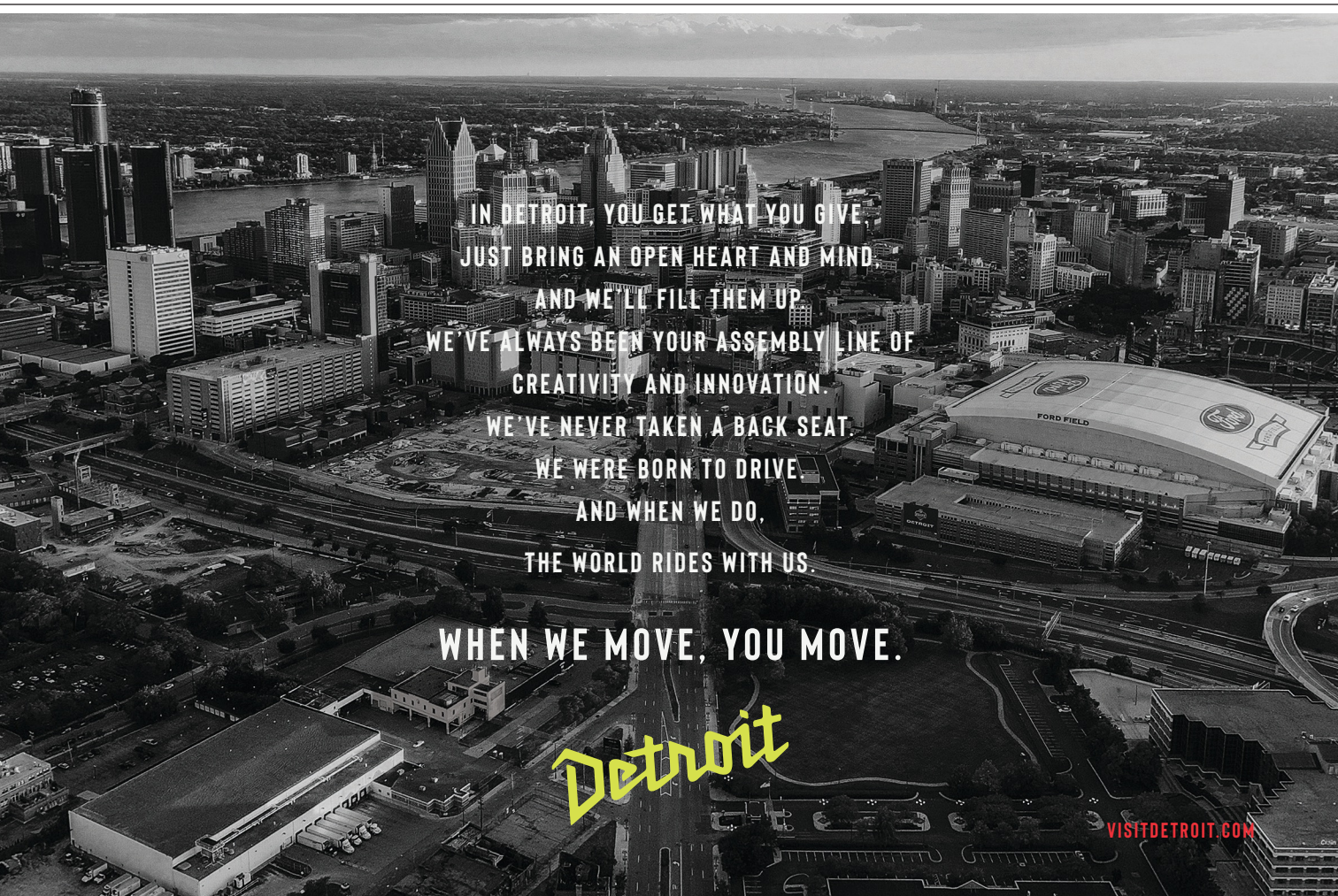
STORY: ANGELA UFHEIL. PHOTOGRAPHS: (CAR) COURTESY OF GILMORE CAR MUSEUM, (KIDS) COURTESY OF SLOAN MUSEUM OF DISCOVERY



COLDWATER COUNTRY

Situated along the historic US-12 Heritage Trail, **Coldwater Country** is a haven for relaxation. Take in the fall color from the water on one of the 100+ freshwater lakes. Step back in time with a ride aboard the 110 year-old Little River Railroad steam engine train or while exploring timeless Victorian downtowns. Discover one-of-a-kind treasures at Michigan's Antique Capital - Allen. Learn the tricks of the trade in the Magic Capital of the World. Take in a performance at Tibbits Opera House or double-feature at the Capri Drive-In.
All this, and more, in Pure Michigan's **Coldwater Country**.

(517) 278-0241
COLDWATERCOUNTRY.COM


IN DETROIT, YOU GET WHAT YOU GIVE.
JUST BRING AN OPEN HEART AND MIND,
AND WE'LL FILL THEM UP.
WE'VE ALWAYS BEEN YOUR ASSEMBLY LINE OF
CREATIVITY AND INNOVATION.
WE'VE NEVER TAKEN A BACK SEAT.
WE WERE BORN TO DRIVE.
AND WHEN WE DO,
THE WORLD RIDES WITH US.
WHEN WE MOVE, YOU MOVE.
Detroit
VISITDETROIT.COM

TRIFECTA of TOWNS

Three is, indeed, a magic number. With close proximity, these trios of towns make the perfect ensemble for a weekend getaway.

FROM TOP
Charlevoix; Legs Inn, Cross Village

CHARLEVOIX, PETOSKEY AND HARBOR SPRINGS

Loaded with boutiques, outdoor adventure and a vibrant local food scene, Little Traverse Bay's harbor towns are a year-round destination. The luxury midcentury modern **Hotel Earl** is a must-stay, and the hobbit-like **Earl Young Mushroom Houses** are a Charlevoix must-see. Visit both, a few blocks from a sweet-tooth fix of local black maple fig spread from **Harwood Gold Store and Cafe.** Mine the curated shelves at **McLean and Eakin,** one of the Midwest's top-rated indie bookstores, and read to the soundtrack of waves rolling into Petoskey's waterfront park. **Latitude 45** rents bikes for lakeside rides on the **Little Traverse Wheelway** connecting Petoskey to Harbor Springs, where you can refuel with an elevated brunch of veggies and eggs over grilled focaccia at **Small Batch,** then tour a fine-art gallery by painter **Elizabeth Pollie.** Cap off your weekend driving the snaky curves of M-119 through the famed Tunnel of Trees. The 20-mile route ends in Cross Village, home to **Legs Inn,** known for their Polish cuisine and whimsical wood carvings. (Legs Inn closes for the season in late October.)

STORY: TREE MEINCH. PHOTOGRAPHS: (BRIDGE) TONY DEMIN, (RESTAURANT) JOHN NOLTNER

Experience Roscommon County

To Do List:

- [x] Make Memories
- [ ] Hiking
- [ ] Fishing
- [ ] Golf
- [ ] Trails
- [ ] Parks
- [ ] Beaches
- [ ] Geocache
- [ ] Shop

Fun on the Trails

Fish the AuSable

XCountry Skiing

Firemen's Memorial

Ice Fishing

VisitHoughtonLake.com

800-676-5330

Houghton Lake Area Tourism Bureau

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP
BaySail's *Appledore* schooners, Bay City; near downtown Houghton; H Hotel, Midland

MIDLAND, SAGINAW AND BAY CITY

An escape to the Great Lakes Bay region means sailing tours, manicured gardens and luxe boutique hotels less than two hours from metro Detroit. Enjoy a crisp breeze while strolling **Dow Gardens'** treetop Canopy Walk or **The Tridge,** an architectural three-legged wooden foot bridge that spans the Tittabawassee and Chippewa rivers. End the day with a craft aperitif at the stylish **Oxygen Lounge** in Midland's **H Hotel.** The **Japanese Cultural Center** in Saginaw offers an oasis of afternoon zen with tea ceremonies at a sukiya-style teahouse built by master Japanese craftsmen. Carry those calm vibes to the Bay City docks and set sail on BaySail's ***Appledore*** schooners, wooden-mast barges that operate sunset cruises on Saginaw Bay through the end of September.

HOUGHTON, HANCOCK AND CALUMET

Hip college-town vibes and craft breweries collide with rich mining history and ornate 19th-century architecture in the gateway towns to the rugged wilderness of the Keweenaw Peninsula. Connected to the peninsula by the Portage Lake Lift Bridge, Houghton welcomes visitors to sip a pint of Point Trail Rye Ale at **Keweenaw Brewing Company.** Or live like an old-school industrialist at **The Vault Hotel,** a restored 137-year-old bank with an exclusive speakeasy, **The Counting Room,** in the basement. Across the river in Hancock, experience the mechanics of Michigan's copper boom on a cog-rail tram ride down the **Quincy Mine.** Or head north to Calumet to tour historic sites like the **Calumet Theatre** and the opulent 11-room, 13,000-square-foot **Laurium Manor Inn.**

PHOTOGRAPHS: BOB STEFKO; (SAILBOAT) BRIAN CONFER

WEEKEND GETAWAY?

LANSING'S MY CHOICE

Plan a road trip to Lansing, Michigan and discover greater options like exciting attractions, lively festivals, diverse dining and charming communities. Choose Lansing for your next getaway and plan on something Greater.

Choose LANSING™

Plan On Something **Greater**

Lansing.org

IN THE HEART OF BEAUTIFUL DOWNTOWN TRAVERSE CITY

PARK PLACE HOTEL
& CONFERENCE CENTER

231-946-5000
PARK-PLACE-HOTEL.COM

Inclusive celebrations of Michigan Beer, where all, 21 and over, are warmly welcomed!

MICHIGAN THE GREAT BEER STATE

FEBRUARY
WINTER BEER FESTIVAL
LMCU Ballpark, Comstock Park

SEPTEMBER
U.P. FALL BEER FESTIVAL
Mattson Lower Harbor Park, Marquette

JULY
SUMMER BEER FESTIVAL
Riverside Park, Ypsilanti

OCTOBER
DETROIT FALL BEER FESTIVAL
Eastern Market, Detroit

Every Michigan Brewers Guild beer festival features hundreds of fresh, local beers from many of Michigan's finest breweries. Proceeds support our non-profit mission to promote and protect the Michigan beer industry. **For info go to MiBeer.com.**

FROM TOP
Headlands International Dark Sky Park, Mackinaw City; Frankenmuth Aerial Park, Frankenmuth

OUTDOORS *after* DARK

Saying farewell to the sun each evening doesn't have to mean bidding adieu to the fun.

STARGAZE

HEADLANDS INTERNATIONAL DARK SKY PARK

Mackinaw City

Once the sun dips behind Lake Michigan, the sky-high light show begins. The Headlands boasts exceptional views of heavenly bodies year-round, but fall and spring equinoxes offer greater likelihood of experiencing the northern lights. Other stargazing designations include six state parks, plus the Keweenaw Dark Sky Park in Copper Harbor and the Dr. T.K. Lawless Park in Vandalia, both with international certifications.

GLOW IN THE DARK

FRANKENMUTH AERIAL PARK

Frankenmuth

Don LED-adorned gear and do your best firefly impression as you glide through the air on the park's ziplines during twice-monthly after-dark specials. Lasers and other twinkling features illuminate the ropes course.

TWILIGHT TOUR

THE VILLAGE AT GRAND TRAVERSE COMMONS

Traverse City

Doctors hoped the grand design of the former Northern Michigan Asylum would inspire healing awe. But evening guided tours, including a stroll through underground tunnels, reveal the structure's spooky side.

HOLIDAY LIGHTS

THE BIG, BRIGHT LIGHT SHOW

Rochester

Shopkeepers in downtown Rochester put ordinary icicle lights to shame each year, plastering their storefronts with more than a million colorful bulbs. Most stores stay open until 9 p.m.; the lights stay on until midnight (November 25–January 19).

STORY: ANGELA UFHEIL. PHOTOGRAPHS: (SKY) KEVIN J. MIYAZAKI/REDUX, (AERIAL PARK) BOB STEFKO

NOTHIN' BUT A GOOD TIME, EVERY TIME!

Delivering the ultimate gaming experience is our passion. That's why every time you take a trip to Michigan's favorite place to play, you'll find everything you love—and more. The most thrilling tables. All the hottest slots. An exhilarating sportsbook. A-list entertainment, decadent dining, and a top-notch team that you can count on to provide the best customer service in the region.

FIREKEEPERS CASINO • HOTEL BATTLE CREEK

GET YOUR VEGAS ON™

Casino Player Best of Gaming BEST OF NATIVE MIDWEST WINNER! 2023

FireKeepersCasino.com | I-94 Exit 104 | 11177 Michigan Avenue |

NOTTAWASEPPI HURON BAND OF THE POTAWATOMI
A FEDERALLY RECOGNIZED TRIBAL GOVERNMENT

Casino Player PLAYERS CHOICE AWARD 2022

PASCHE'S Seafood Kitchen Since 1986

Quality INN & SUITES BY CHOICE HOTELS

Gold Award 2021

HOTEL AMENITIES
- Complimentary hot breakfast & Wi-Fi
- In-room refrigerator & microwave
- Evening shuttle to casino
- Fitness Room
- Guest laundry
- Truck Parking
- On-site restaurant lounge

Quality Inn & Suites
Next to the Casino
Battle Creek, MI
269.964.3000

Book your room with us at www.choicehotels.com

IT'S ONLY
NATURAL
When the days grow cooler, head to the Grand Haven Area. Brightly colored trails, stunning sunsets, and the season's best waves await. Here you'll find hand-picked harvests, hearty meals, and warm hospitality all in a natural setting that beckons exploration.
VisitGrandHaven.com
#VisitGrandHavenArea

In the Grand Haven Area, it's all here, and it's only natural.
VisitGrandHaven.com

Grand Haven AREA MICHIGAN

12 TOP AUTUMN ACTIVITIES

Crisper weather and turning leaves means it's the perfect time in Michigan to go **APPLE PICKING,** catch a **COLLEGE FOOTBALL GAME** and partake in other **FALL-LICIOUS FAVORITES.**

WRITER ANDREA MINARCEK JESSUP

PHOTOGRAPHS: (TREES) STARBOARD AND PORT, (CYCLIST) AARON PETERSON

THIS PAGE
Iron Ore Heritage Trail, Marquette County

OPPOSITE PAGE
M-22

FROM TOP
M-22; Old Presque Isle Lighthouse, Presque Isle Township

1 FARM-FRESH FALL FLAVORS

Some of Michigan's signature produce (think wine grapes and cherries) grow in specific geographic pockets. But classic autumn treats like apples and pumpkins can be found at U-pick farms throughout the state. Associated activities include much more than harvesting: Hayrides, corn mazes and petting zoos populate many destinations. Make a family day of it at **Knaebe's Apple Farm and Ciderworks** in Rogers City. Kids will love the barrel train ride and wagon pulled by a 1947 tractor, adults favor the house-made hard cider, and everyone can enjoy fresh doughnuts at the bakery and wood-fired pizza in the barn.

2 SHORELINE HORSEBACK RIDES

Silver Lake State Park welcomes equestrians to enjoy its sand dune-lined shores the entire month of November, just in time for the reds and oranges of the season to frame Lake Michigan in Mears. The park encompasses almost 3,000 acres, but horseback riders are invited to follow a designated, out-and-back waterfront route of about 8 miles. Riders must bring their own horses; registration is required ($10/one person, one horse; registration opens September 1).

3 HIT THE ROAD

The Great Lakes State is laced with winding byways that, in autumn, are surrounded by fiery bursts of picturesque foliage. You can cruise the famed **M-22** highway from Traverse City through the winery-dotted Leelanau Peninsula, Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore and on to Manistee in less than three hours, but you'd miss miles of windblown Lake Michigan shoreline, cozy tasting rooms and leaf-peeping hikes. **US-23 Heritage Route,** along the Lake Huron coast, and the Keweenaw Peninsula's **Brockway Mountain Drive** with views of Lake Superior, also make memorable fall trips.

4 RAIL AND SAIL COLOR TOURS

For a scenic tour from the passenger perspective, hop on a steam-powered train along the 1857 **Huckleberry Railroad** line. Rides run 40 minutes along a narrow-gauge track that borders Mott Lake northeast of Flint, and lead to the walkable, turn-of-the-20th-century **Crossroads Village.** In Munising, **Pictured Rocks Cruises'** two-hour evening sails offer a rainbow trifecta: You can catch the colors of the leaves, the sandstone, and the setting sun on Lake Superior while boating past 70-foot-high Spray Falls.

5 GHOST STORIES

Seek out a spook-tactular encounter at the 1840 **Old Presque Isle Lighthouse,** which stands guard over Lake Huron's Shipwreck Alley and is said to be haunted by the ghost of former caretaker George Parris. In Marquette, the **Landmark Inn** has had its fair share of famous guests over the years, including Amelia Earhart, Maya Angelou and Louis Armstrong. But the most notorious visitor might be the "Lilac Lady," the ghost of a 1930s librarian who reportedly stands at the window of the Lilac Room wearing a floral nightgown and waiting for her beloved to return from an ill-fated boat trip.

PHOTOGRAPHS: (ROAD) STARBOARD AND PORT; (LIGHTHOUSE) JOHN NOLTNER; (BIKERS) AARON PETERSON

6 FOLIAGE BIKE RIDES

Michigan's many car-free trails give cyclists ample opportunity to pedal through canopies of autumn leaves. The 20-plus-mile **Lansing River Trail** connects shops, restaurants and galleries downtown to the wildlife of Scott Woods and beyond. In the Upper Peninsula, the **Iron Ore Heritage Trail** stretches 47 miles from the Lake Superior coast in Marquette and then inland along an old railroad corridor west to Republic. Make a pit stop at Campfire Coffee or Upper Peninsula Brewing Company, both in Negaunee.

Iron Ore Heritage Trail, Marquette County

7 BIG TEN FOOTBALL GAMES

Whatever your academic allegiance, catching a game at Ann Arbor's The Big House, the University of Michigan's 1927 **Michigan Stadium,** is a bucket-list goal. It's the biggest stadium in the Western Hemisphere, with room for 107,601 fans. Another option, especially if the matchup is between the Wolverines and rival Michigan State University, is a game at **Spartan Stadium** in East Lansing, with just over 75,000 seats in the stands.

8 HIKES IN THE WOODS

Once complete, the **Iron Belle Trail** will traverse the entire state, a 2,000-mile path from the western tip of the Upper Peninsula to Detroit's Belle Isle. The trail includes two separate routes: one designated for hiking, the other for biking. In many spots, the trail is part of other existing trail segments. Although it's about 70 percent finished (you have plenty of time to train for an epic thru-hike!), you can still enjoy scenic stretches, including a 3.5-mile portion of the **North Country National Scenic Trail,** which hugs the Lake Michigan coast through Wilderness State Park near Mackinaw City.

9 RETRO FLICKS

Michigan is home to one of the largest drive-in movie theaters in the country: Dearborn's **Ford-Wyoming Drive In** has five screens, parking space for 1,700 cars, and frequent two-for-one double-feature specials. Coldwater's **Capri Drive-In,** celebrating its 60th anniversary, shows new and classic movies on two screens into the early holiday season.

10 HUNTING RETREATS

Nearly 10 million acres of land are open to public hunting in Michigan, but the window to hunt the state's official game mammal, the white-tailed deer, is relatively short. (The 2024 firearm season runs November 15–30.) Private game reserves, however, are open for hunting year-round—and offer guided treks, luxe accommodations and meals, and ample fishing. Check out **Wolf Ridge Hunt Lodge** in Howell and **Valhalla Lodge** in Lupton.

11 BROADWAY PRODUCTIONS AND MORE

Broadway in Detroit kicks off in September with an A-list lineup of plays and musicals presented in downtown venues, including the **Fisher Theatre.** In Grand Rapids, arts-lovers flock to **DeVos Performance Hall,** which hosts local symphony, ballet and opera performances, along with touring Broadway productions. Up north, the autumn weekend calendar at Petoskey's **Great Lakes Center for the Arts** is packed with live music.

FROM TOP
Iron Belle Trail; ArtPrize, Grand Rapids

12 ARTPRIZE

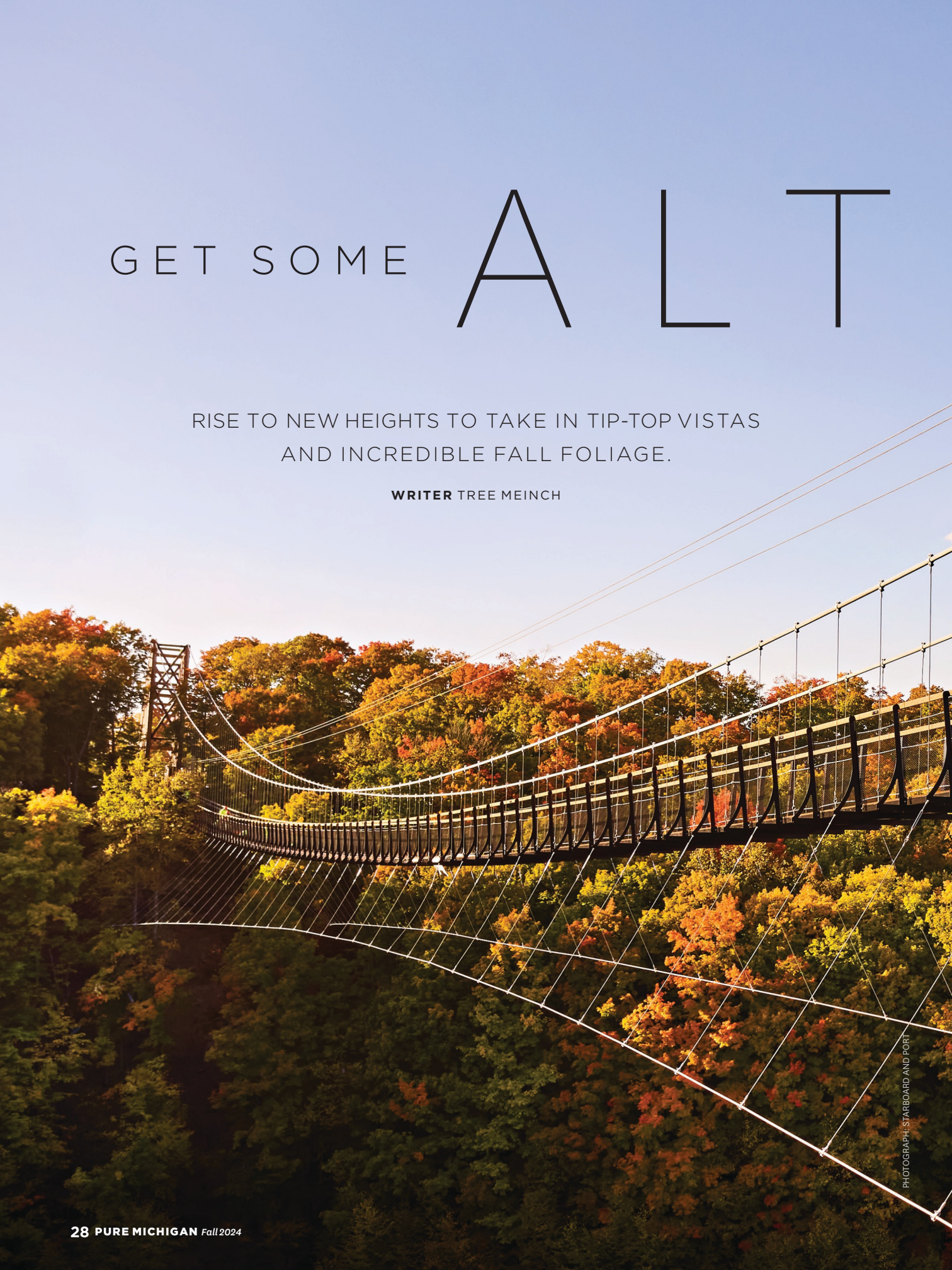
Every autumn, a national and international lineup of sculptures, paintings and other art installations take over Grand Rapids' hotels, galleries and coffee shops as part of **ArtPrize** (September 13–28). The public votes for their favorite work of art and helps decide the competition's winners, which might be why the event is a favorite for repeat visitors.

PHOTOGRAPHS: (STADIUM) UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN FOOTBALL, (HIKERS) AARON PETERSON, (ARTPRIZE/*COUNT ON ME* BY RYAN MCCALLISTER) NICK IRWIN

GET SOME ALT

RISE TO NEW HEIGHTS TO TAKE IN TIP-TOP VISTAS AND INCREDIBLE FALL FOLIAGE.

WRITER TREE MEINCH

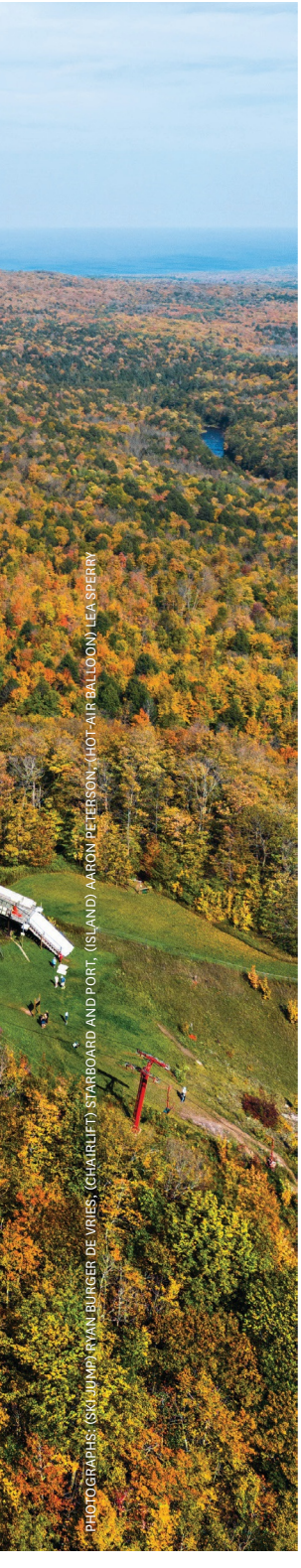


PHOTOGRAPH: STARBOARD AND PORT

ITUDE

SkyBridge Michigan at Boyne Mountain Resort, Boyne Falls

CLOCKWISE, FROM TOP
Copper Peak, Ironwood; Sugarloaf Mountain, Marquette; Boyne Mountain Resort, Boyne Falls



PHOTOGRAPHS: (SKI JUMP) RYAN BURGER DE VRIES; (CHAIRLIFT) STARBOARD AND PORT, (ISLAND) AARON PETERSON; (HOT-AIR BALLOON) LEA SPERRY

FIVE WAYS TO GET

HIGHER

HIKE

Few outdoor pastimes rival the simple joys of hiking. All you need is reliable footwear and inspiring scenery. Thankfully, Michigan delivers an excess of the latter, across both peninsulas. Try checking off two peaks in one day in Marquette: **Mt. Marquette** and **Sugarloaf Mountain** (with difficult and easy route options). At **Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore,** climbing 400 feet feels much tougher than it sounds when you hoof it from the lakefront via **Empire Bluff Trail.** Even Mackinac Island packs some elevation on the **Tranquil Bluff Trail.**

CLIMB

No technical gear is needed for some of Michigan's most mind-blowing ascents—but a stomach for heights might help. Braving a combination of a chairlift and an 18-story elevator ride to the main observation deck plus an eight-story stair climb can place you atop the world's tallest artificial ski jump—1,782-feet above sea level—at **Copper Peak** in Ironwood. The soaring **Tower of History** in Sault Ste. Marie showcases a 360-degree view of **Soo Locks** and its adjoining waterways.

RIDE

Before the snow, many ski resorts fire up their double and quad chairlifts for scenic fall rides that provide a whole new vantage point on autumn magic. Book a reservation at **Shanty Creek Resort** in Bellaire, where Short's Brewing Company sponsors the loop up and down Schuss Mountain. In Boyne Falls, overnight guests of **Boyne Mountain Resort** can ride the year-round lift free of charge.

Michigan Balloon Corporation, Kalamazoo

CROSS

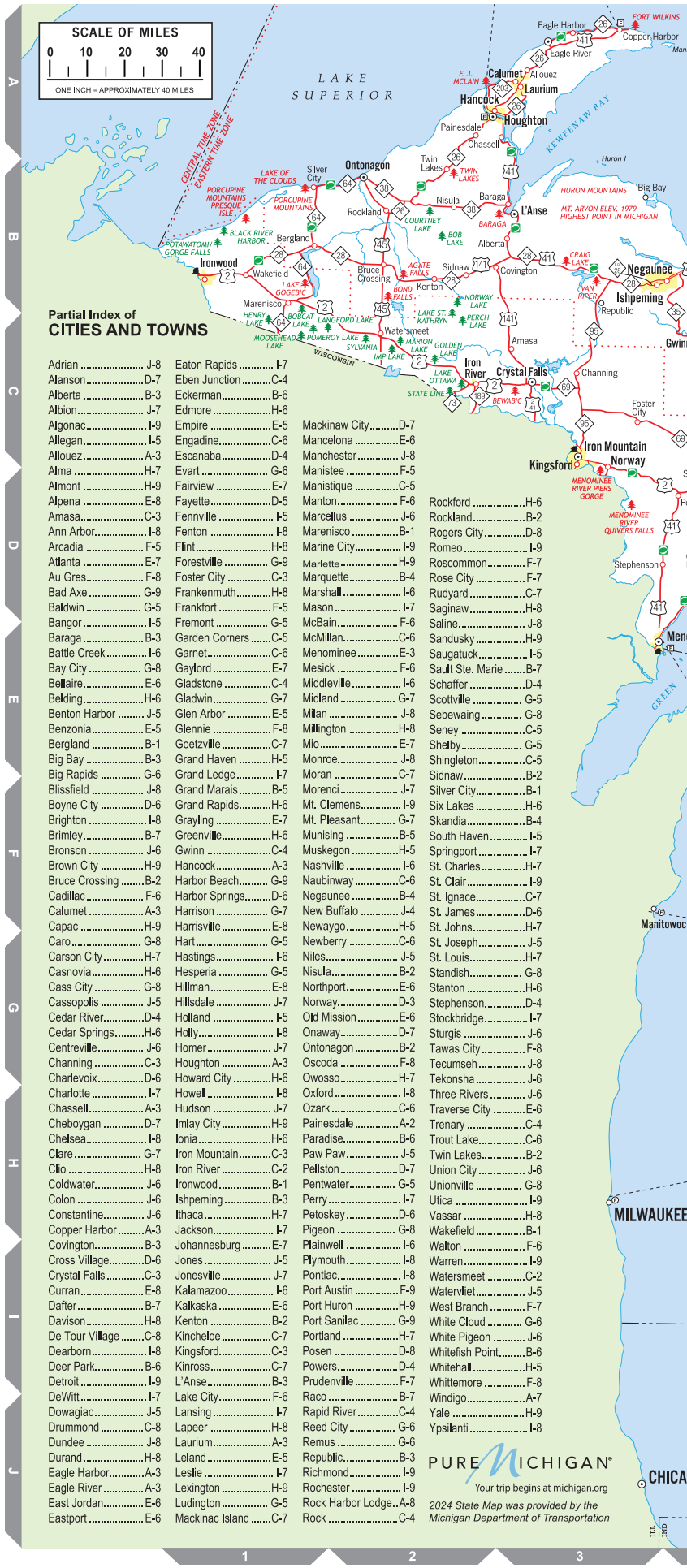
Skipping across the right bridge can briefly suspend you among the leaves and branches. **SkyBridge Michigan** at Boyne Mountain Resort opened in 2022 and holds the distinction of the world's longest timber-towered suspension bridge, spanning 1,200 feet between McLouth and Disciples Ridge peaks. **Sky Canopy Walk** in Tipton at Michigan State University's Hidden Lake Gardens (new in 2023) combines education and play, while **Dow Gardens** in Midland still claims the nation's longest canopy walk, stretching 1,400 feet above a pond, orchard and woodlands.

SOAR

If you're hankering for extreme heights, hot air and wind can do the job. Book a serene balloon ride up, up and away year-round via **Altitude Endeavors** in Battle Creek, serving southwest Michigan and the northern Lower Peninsula. **Michigan Balloon Corporation** in Kalamazoo also provides rides thousands of feet above the ground and trains new balloon pilots. For more speed and propelled motion, **Isle Royale Seaplanes** out of Hubbell will glide you through a 30-minute fall color tour, featuring the UP wilderness.

Shanty Creek Resort,
Bellaire

PHOTOGRAPH: KEITH KING



Partial Index of CITIES AND TOWNS

Adrian J-8
Alanson D-7
Alberta B-3
Albion J-7
Algonac I-9
Allegan I-5
Allouez A-3
Alma H-7
Almont H-9
Alpena E-8
Amasa C-3
Ann Arbor I-8
Arcadia F-5
Atlanta E-7
Au Gres F-8
Bad Axe G-9
Baldwin G-5
Bangor I-5
Baraga B-3
Battle Creek I-6
Bay City G-8
Bellaire E-6
Belding H-6
Benton Harbor J-5
Benzonia E-5
Bergland B-1
Big Bay B-3
Big Rapids G-6
Blissfield J-8
Boyne City D-6
Brighton I-8
Brimley B-7
Bronson J-6
Brown City H-9
Bruce Crossing B-2
Cadillac F-6
Calumet A-3
Capac H-9
Caro G-8
Carson City H-7
Casnovia H-6
Cass City G-8
Cassopolis J-5
Cedar River D-4
Cedar Springs H-6
Centreville J-6
Channing C-3
Charlevoix D-6
Charlotte I-7
Chassell A-3
Cheboygan D-7
Chelsea I-8
Clare G-7
Clio H-8
Coldwater J-6
Colon J-6
Constantine J-6
Copper Harbor A-3
Covington B-3
Cross Village D-6
Crystal Falls C-3
Curran E-8
Dafter B-7
Davison H-8
De Tour Village C-8
Dearborn I-8
Deer Park B-6
Detroit I-9
DeWitt I-7
Dowagiac J-5
Drummond C-8
Dundee J-8
Durand H-8
Eagle Harbor A-3
Eagle River A-3
East Jordan E-6
Eastport E-6
Eaton Rapids I-7
Eben Junction C-4
Eckerman B-6
Edmore H-6
Empire E-5
Engadine C-6
Escanaba D-4
Evart G-6
Fairview E-7
Fayette D-5
Fennville I-5
Fenton I-8
Flint H-8
Forestville G-9
Foster City C-3
Frankenmuth H-8
Frankfort F-5
Fremont G-5
Garden Corners C-5
Garnet C-6
Gaylord E-7
Gladstone C-4
Gladwin G-7
Glen Arbor E-5
Glennie F-8
Goetzville C-7
Grand Haven H-5
Grand Ledge I-7
Grand Marais B-5
Grand Rapids H-6
Grayling E-7
Greenville H-6
Gwinn C-4
Hancock A-3
Harbor Beach G-9
Harbor Springs D-6
Harrison G-7
Harrisville E-8
Hart G-5
Hastings I-6
Hesperia G-5
Hillman E-8
Hillsdale J-7
Holland I-5
Holly I-8
Homer J-7
Houghton A-3
Howard City H-6
Howell I-8
Hudson J-7
Imlay City H-9
Ionia H-6
Iron Mountain C-3
Iron River C-2
Ironwood B-1
Ishpeming B-3
Ithaca H-7
Jackson I-7
Johannesburg E-7
Jones J-5
Jonesville J-7
Kalamazoo I-6
Kalkaska E-6
Kenton B-2
Kincheloe C-7
Kingsford C-3
Kinross C-7
L'Anse B-3
Lake City F-6
Lansing I-7
Lapeer H-8
Laurium A-3
Leland E-5
Leslie I-7
Lexington H-9
Ludington G-5
Mackinac Island C-7
Mackinaw City D-7
Mancelona E-6
Manchester J-8
Manistee F-5
Manistique C-5
Manton F-6
Marcellus J-6
Marenisco B-1
Marine City I-9
Marlette H-9
Marquette B-4
Marshall I-6
Mason I-7
McBain F-6
McMillan C-6
Menominee E-3
Mesick F-6
Middleville I-6
Midland G-7
Milan J-8
Millington H-8
Mio E-7
Monroe J-8
Moran C-7
Morenci J-7
Mt. Clemens I-9
Mt. Pleasant G-7
Munising B-5
Muskegon H-5
Nashville I-6
Naubinway C-6
Negaunee B-4
New Buffalo J-4
Newaygo H-5
Newberry C-6
Niles J-5
Nisula B-2
Northport E-6
Norway D-3
Old Mission E-6
Onaway D-7
Ontonagon B-2
Oscoda F-8
Owosso H-7
Oxford I-8
Ozark C-6
Painesdale A-2
Paradise B-6
Paw Paw J-5
Pellston D-7
Pentwater G-5
Perry I-7
Petoskey D-6
Pigeon G-8
Plainwell I-6
Plymouth I-8
Pontiac I-8
Port Austin F-9
Port Huron H-9
Port Sanilac G-9
Portland H-7
Posen D-8
Powers D-4
Prudenville F-7
Raco B-7
Rapid River C-4
Reed City G-6
Remus G-6
Republic B-3
Richmond I-9
Rochester I-9
Rock Harbor Lodge A-8
Rock C-4
Rockford H-6
Rockland B-2
Rogers City D-8
Romeo I-9
Roscommon F-7
Rose City F-7
Rudyard C-7
Saginaw H-8
Saline J-8
Sandusky H-9
Saugatuck I-5
Sault Ste. Marie B-7
Schaffer D-4
Scottville G-5
Sebewaing G-8
Seney C-5
Shelby G-5
Shingleton C-5
Sidnaw B-2
Silver City B-1
Six Lakes H-6
Skandia B-4
South Haven I-5
Springport I-7
St. Charles H-7
St. Clair I-9
St. Ignace C-7
St. James D-6
St. Johns H-7
St. Joseph J-5
St. Louis H-7
Standish G-8
Stanton H-6
Stephenson D-4
Stockbridge I-7
Sturgis J-6
Tawas City F-8
Tecumseh J-8
Tekonsha J-6
Three Rivers J-6
Traverse City E-6
Trenary C-4
Trout Lake C-6
Twin Lakes B-2
Union City J-6
Unionville G-8
Utica I-9
Vassar H-8
Wakefield B-1
Walton F-6
Warren I-9
Watersmeet C-2
Watervliet J-5
West Branch F-7
White Cloud G-6
White Pigeon J-6
Whitefish Point B-6
Whitehall H-5
Whittemore F-8
Windigo A-7
Yale H-9
Ypsilanti I-8

PURE MICHIGAN®
Your trip begins at michigan.org

2024 State Map was provided by the Michigan Department of Transportation

A B C D E F G H I J

1 2 3

ISLE ROYALE
KEWEENAW COUNTY
ALL TRANSPORTATION SERVICES ARE PASSENGER ONLY - NO VEHICLES
ONTARIO
MICHIGAN
Rock Harbor Lodge
ISLE ROYALE NATIONAL PARK
Windigo
VOYAGEUR II
MID-MAY THROUGH NOV.
WENONAH
MID-JUNE THROUGH LABOR DAY
TO AND FROM GRAND PORTAGE MINNESOTA
RANGER III
MID-MAY THROUGH OCT.
ISLE ROYALE QUEEN IV
JUNE THROUGH LABOR DAY
ISLE ROYALE QUEEN III
MID-MAY THROUGH MID-SEPTEMBER
HIGHWAY MARKERS
94 INTERSTATE ROUTE
23 U.S. ROUTE or B.R. (B.R. - Business Route)
78 U.S. ROUTE or B.R. (B.R. - Business Route)
INTERSTATE, U.S. AND STATE ROUTES
Full Interchanges
Partial Interchanges
FREEWAY (Entrance and Exit only at Interchanges)
MULTI-LANE DIVIDED
PAVED – TWO OR MORE LANES
MAP SYMBOLS
NATIONAL PARK
STATE PARK
NATIONAL FOREST RECREATION FACILITY
F PASSENGER & AUTO FERRY
F PASSENGER FERRY
FERRY/BOATLINE
COUNTY SEAT
STATE CAPITAL (LANSING)
WELCOME CENTER & REST AREA**
GREAT LAKES CIRCLE TOUR (SIGNED)
**Accessible to people with disabilities
LAKE SUPERIOR
LAKE MICHIGAN
LAKE HURON
LAKE ST. CLAIR
LAKE ERIE
ONTARIO
MICHIGAN
WISCONSIN
MICHIGAN
INDIANA
OHIO
OHIO
ONTARIO
CENTRAL TIME ZONE
EASTERN TIME ZONE
Whitefish Point
WHITEFISH BAY
Grand Marais
MUSKALLONGE LAKE
Deer Park
PICTURED ROCKS NATIONAL LAKESHORE
Paradise
TAHQUAMENON
TAHQUAMENON FALLS RIVER MOUTH
UPPER TAHQUAMENON FALLS
LOWER TAHQUAMENON FALLS
Sault Ste. Marie
SOO LOCKS
Marquette
Grand I
BAY FURNACE
LAUGHING WHITEFISH FALLS
Skandia
AU TRAIN LAKE
Munising
WAGNER FALLS
WIDE WATERS
ISLAND LAKE
COLWELL LAKE
PETE'S LAKE
LITTLE BASS LAKE
CAMP LAKE
FLOWING WELL
INDIAN LAKE WEST UNIT
Eben Junction
Shingleton
Seney
McMillan
Newberry
Eckerman
BAY VIEW
Brimley
BRIMLEY
Raco
Dafter
SOLDIER LAKE
Kinross
Kinchelo
Rudyard
THREE LAKES
Trout Lake
Garnet
Trenary
Rock
Engadine
Naubinway
Ozark
CARP RIVER
Moran
Martin I
Goetzville
LIME ISLAND
De Tour Village
Drummond
Drummond Island
Neebish I
Rapid River
Manistique
INDIAN LAKE
Gladstone
Garden Corners
LITTLE BAY DE NOC
BIG BAY DE NOC
Escanaba
FAYETTE
Fayette
Schaffer
Little Summer I
Summer I
Poverty I
St. Martin Islands
North Fox I
South Fox I
Cedar River
J. W. WELLS
Whitefish I
Garden I
Hog I
Trout I
High I
Gull I
Beaver Island
St. James
St. Ignace
Mackinaw City
FATHER MARQUETTE NATIONAL MEMORIAL
HEADLANDS INTERNATIONAL DARK SKY PARK
WILDERNESS
HISTORIC MILL CREEK DISCOVERY
LAKE MICHIGAN
FOLEY CREEK
STRAITS OF MACKINAC
Mackinac Island
Round I
FORT MACKINAC
Marquette I
Les Cheneaux I
Bois Blanc Island
Cheboygan
CHEBOYGAN
Cross Village
Pellston
ALOHA
Harbor Springs
Alanson
ONAWAY
Rogers City
P. H. HOEFT
THOMPSON'S HARBOR
PETOSKEY
BURT LAKE
Charlevoix
FISHERMAN'S ISLAND
YOUNG
Petoskey
Onaway
Posen
THUNDER BAY NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY
Boyne City
LEELANAU
East Jordan
Eastport
ROCKPORT
Alpena
Thunder Bay I
THUNDER BAY
UNDERWATER PRESERVE
NEGWEGON
CLEAR LAKE
Hillman
Atlanta
Gaylord
Northport
N. Manitou I
S. Manitou I
GRAND TRAVERSE BAY
OLD MISSION
Old Mission
Leland
Glen Arbor
Bellaire
OTSEGO LAKE
Johannesburg
Mancelona
Sturgeon Bay
SLEEPING BEAR DUNES NATIONAL LAKESHORE
Empire
KEITH J. CHARTERS TRAVERSE CITY
Traverse City
Kalkaska
HARTWICK PINES
Grayling
KNEFF LAKE
Fairview
Mio
Curran
Harrisville
HARRISVILLE
STURGEON POINT
Frankfort
Benzonia
INTERLOCHEN
Arcadia
Walton
NORTH HIGGINS LAKE
Roscommon
ISLAND LAKE
MACK LAKE
Glennie
Manton
Mesick
SOUTH HIGGINS LAKE
Rose City
RIFLE RIVER
MONUMENT
Oscoda
ROUND LAKE
ORCHARD BEACH
TIPPY DAM
Cadillac
WM. MITCHELL
Lake City
Prudenville
West Branch
Whittemore
TAWAS POINT
Tawas City
Manistee
LAKE MICHIGAN RECREATION AREA
SAND LAKE
HEMLOCK
McBain
LUDINGTON
Scottville
Ludington
BOWMAN BRIDGE
Reed City
Harrison
WILSON
Gladwin
Au Gres
Standish
Charity I
Little Charity I
ALBERT E. SLEEPER
PORT CRESCENT
Port Austin
Pt Aux Barques
Sand Pt
SAGINAW BAY
Heisterman I
Middle Grounds I
Pigeon
Bad Axe
Harbor Beach
CHARLES MEARS
Pentwater
Baldwin
Evart
Clare
BAY CITY
Unionville
Sebewaing
Cass City
SANILAC PETROGLYPHS
Forestville
Hart
SILVER LAKE
Shelby
Hesperia
White Cloud
Big Rapids
Mount Pleasant
Remus
Midland
PINES POINT
Fremont
NEWAYGO
Six Lakes
Edmore
Alma
St. Louis
SAGINAW
Caro
Sandusky
Port Sanilac
Marlette
Whitehall
DUCK LAKE
Newaygo
Howard City
Vassar
Frankenmuth
Millington
Lexington
MUSKEGON
Casnovia
Cedar Springs
Stanton
Ithaca
St. Charles
Clio
Brown City
Yale
P. J. HOFFMASTER
Rockford
Greenville
Carson City
Lapeer
Davison
Imlay City
LAKEPORT
Port Huron
Sarnia
Grand Haven
GRAND HAVEN
BASS RIVER
GRAND RAPIDS
Belding
St. Johns
Owosso
Ionia
IONIA
Portland
DeWitt
SLEEPY HOLLOW
FLINT
METAMORA HADLEY
Almont
Capac
Durand
Perry
Fenton
Richmond
Oxford
Romeo
BALD MOUNTAIN
ORTONVILLE HOLLY
St. Clair
Marine City
ALGONAC
HOLLAND
Holland
SAUGATUCK DUNES
Saugatuck
Middleville
Hastings
Grand Ledge
LANSING
Holly
SEVEN LAKES
Rochester
W.C. WETZEL
Utica
Algonac
Nashville
Howell
PONTIAC LAKE
HIGHLAND
PONTIAC
Mount Clemens
WARREN
Mason
Eaton Rapids
Brighton
PROUD LAKE
BRIGHTON
Fennville
YANKEE SPRINGS
Allegan
Plainwell
Charlotte
Leslie
Stockbridge
PINCKNEY
Plymouth
MAYBURY
WILLIAM G. MILLIKEN
DETROIT
South Haven
VAN BUREN
Bangor
Battle Creek
Springport
WATERLOO
Chelsea
DEARBORN
BELLE ISLE
Windsor
Fighting I
Marshall
Paw Paw
KALAMAZOO
Albion
JACKSON
ANN ARBOR
Ypsilanti
Grosse Ile
Benton Harbor
St. Joseph
Watervliet
Union City
Homer
Saline
Manchester
Milan
Marcellus
Dowagiac
Three Rivers
Tekonsha
Tecumseh
Dundee
STERLING
Monroe
GRAND MERE
Cassopolis
Coldwater
Jonesville
Hillsdale
Adrian
Hudson
Blissfield
WARREN DUNES
WARREN WOODS
Jones
Centreville
Colon
Constantine
Sturgis
Bronson
COLDWATER
Morenci
New Buffalo
Niles
White Pigeon
TOLEDO
LAKE ERIE
4
5
6
7
8
9

PURE MICHIGAN®

travel GUIDE

WINTER 2024

WOODS & WATERS • CITIES & CULTURE • WINTER ACTIVITIES

WISH YOU WERE HERE.
C'mon up
TRAVERSE city
MICHIGAN

VISIT Muskegon

YOUR WINTER ADVENTURE BEGINS HERE

CALL FOR YOUR FREE VISITORS GUIDE

800.250.9283 | WWW.VISITMUSKEGON.ORG

PURE MICHIGAN

TRAVEL MICHIGAN
300 N. Washington Square
Lansing, Michigan 48913
888/784-7328
michigan.org

INTERIM VICE PRESIDENT
Kelly Wolgamott

PUBLICATIONS SPECIALIST
Robin Peebles

EDITORIAL DIRECTOR
Kylee Krizmanic

EXECUTIVE EDITOR
Brian Kramer

EDITOR, CUSTOM MEDIA
Kristin Bienert

ASSOCIATE CREATIVE DIRECTOR
Matt Zack

DEPUTY ART DIRECTOR
John Meek

SENIOR EDITOR
Gary Thompson

COPY EDITOR
Diane Penningroth

CONTRIBUTOR
Christine Hoskin

PUBLISHER
Mark Josephson

NATIONAL TRAVEL DIRECTOR
Katy Hildman

ADVERTISING SALES
Richard Konopaske
269/965-3134

Dotdash meredith

Treetops Resort, Gaylord

contents

WINTER 2024-2025

DEPARTMENTS

5 WOODS AND WATERS

6 GET YOUR SNOW ON

8 COOL GEAR

11 CITIES AND CULTURE

12 HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS IN DETROIT

16 HIT THE JACKPOT

DIGITAL EDITION

To access a mobile-optimized version, visit *michigan.org*

FEATURES

18 TOP WINTER ACTIVITIES
Discover where to luge, snowmobile, cross-country ski and more, plus check out a roundup of ski resorts.

26 SIPPING IN A WINTER WONDERLAND
Trek through the Traverse Wine Coast with stops in cozy tasting rooms.

ON THE COVER

Boyne Mountain Resort, Boyne Falls
Photographer: Nate Luke

/PureMichigan /PureMichigan /PureMichigan /PureMichigan /PureMichigan /PureMichigan

PHOTOGRAPH: RYAN DONNELL

MARQUETTE, MICHIGAN
On YOUR MARQ
TRAVEL MARQUETTE
TRAVELMARQUETTE.COM

WOODS AND WATERS

Keweenaw Mountain Lodge, Copper Harbor

Nordic Spa, Mount Bohemia, Lac La Belle

PHOTOGRAPHS: RYAN DONNELL

NO BUSINESS LIKE SNOW BUSINESS

Winter in Michigan means on with the snow. Count on a *picturesque blanket* of fluff, especially in the *Upper Peninsula*, home to some of the snowiest spots. The entire state is a playground for skiing, snowboarding, tubing, snowshoeing and fat-tire biking, plus *festivals* of frosty fun. Enjoy the water, too, while you're ice-skating across a frozen lake or slipping into a *spa pool* by the slopes.

GET *your* SNOW ON

Each year, roughly 300 inches of snow falls on the Keweenaw Peninsula. With that much powder to explore, we recommend extending your weekend trip an extra day (or two).

Keweenaw Mountain Lodge, Copper Harbor

HISTORIC PROPERTY On-site amenities at Keweenaw Mountain Lodge include snowshoes and 10 kilometers of groomed cross-country ski trails. Plus, it's a Dark Sky Park.

DAY 1
In Hancock, hone your downhill skills at **Mont Ripley Ski Area,** a 24-trail resort with a terrain park and tubing hill. Cross the river and fill up on surf and turf at **The Den,** then retire to **The Vault Hotel** in Houghton. Design details nod to the building's past life as a bank, and there's a guest-only speakeasy in the basement.

DAY 2
Pick up apple fritters from **Roy's Pasties and Bakery** on your way to cross-country skiing, snowshoeing or fat-tire biking on trails winding through **Maasto Hiihto, Nara Nature Park** and **Michigan Tech University's** campus. Afterward, warm up with a pizza from **Ambassador Restaurant** and a drink from **Keweenaw Brewing Company.** In early February, peruse the intricate snow sculptures designed by Michigan Tech students for Winter Carnival.

DAY 3
Drive up the peninsula to Lac La Belle and venture into **Mount Bohemia's** backcountry ski area. Sore muscles will appreciate a post-adventure dip in the **Nordic Spa's** hot pools before you end your day at **Keweenaw Mountain Lodge** in Copper Harbor.

STORY: ANGELA UFHEIL. PHOTOGRAPH: ANGELA CONNERS TREIMER

ALL IN FOR

Snow-powered Pursuits!

Get in on Gaylord's endless opportunities for winter fun.

SHARE YOUR *All Outdoors!* STORY!
@gaylordmichigan

GAYLORD
MICHIGAN USA
All Outdoors

ORDER A FREE VACATION GUIDE: GAYLORDMICHIGAN.NET | 800.345.8621

cool GEAR

These made-in-Michigan companies produce top-tier cold-season products. Some even allow visitors to go behind the scenes and tour factories.

Stormy Kromer produces hats, gloves, vests and coats to keep you warm.

Snowshoes from Iverson Outdoors

IVERSON OUTDOORS
Wetmore

Master craftspeople bend traditional white ash frames and weave rawhide or neoprene laces into 10 styles of heirloom-quality snowshoes, such as the Modified Bear Paw, Tundra and Ojibwa.

SHAGGY'S COPPER COUNTRY SKIS
Boyne City

Layers of hardwood and carbon fiber are precision-sandwiched to carve through any kind of powder, whether found on the bunny hill or triple black diamond. Call ahead to schedule a factory tour and buy custom skis, fitted perfectly for you.

STORMY KROMER
Ironwood

Reserve your spot on the weekday tour (10:30 a.m.) to watch bolts of waxed cotton or wool buffalo plaid transform into Stormy Kromer's iconic ear-band cap, essential for stylishly fending off Michigan cold for more than a century.

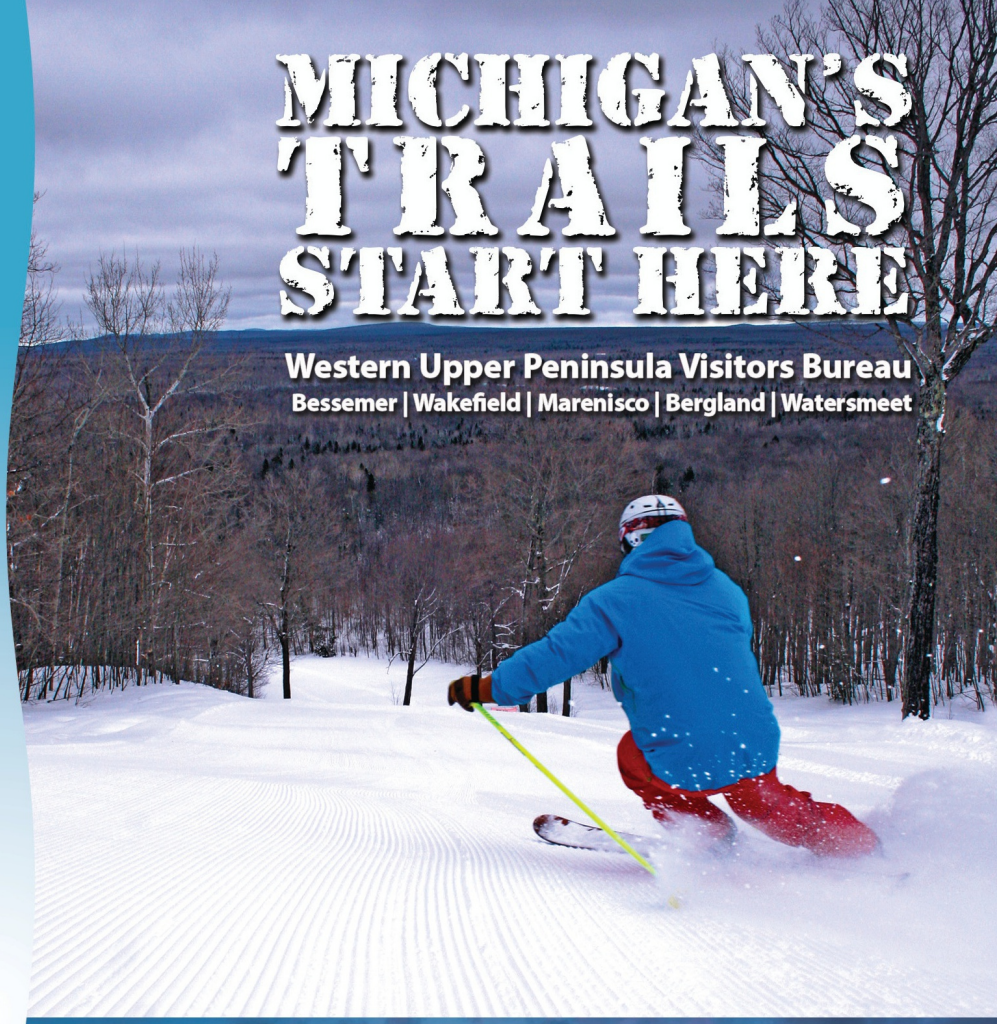
DID YOU KNOW? *Michigan's manufacturing legacy isn't just about automakers. The state is also home to one of the world's most iconic outdoor apparel brands: Indestructible Carhartt duck canvas originated in Detroit with its headquarters in Dearborn.*

STORY: TIM TEBEAU. PHOTOGRAPHS: (PEOPLE) COURTESY OF STORMY KROMER, (SNOWSHOES) COURTESY OF IVERSON OUTDOORS

MICHIGAN'S TRAILS START HERE

Western Upper Peninsula Visitors Bureau

Bessemer | Wakefield | Marenisco | Bergland | Watersmeet



MICHIGAN'S TRAILHEAD

WESTERN U.P.

ExploreWesternUP.com

Adwait Bhagwat

CITIES AND CULTURE

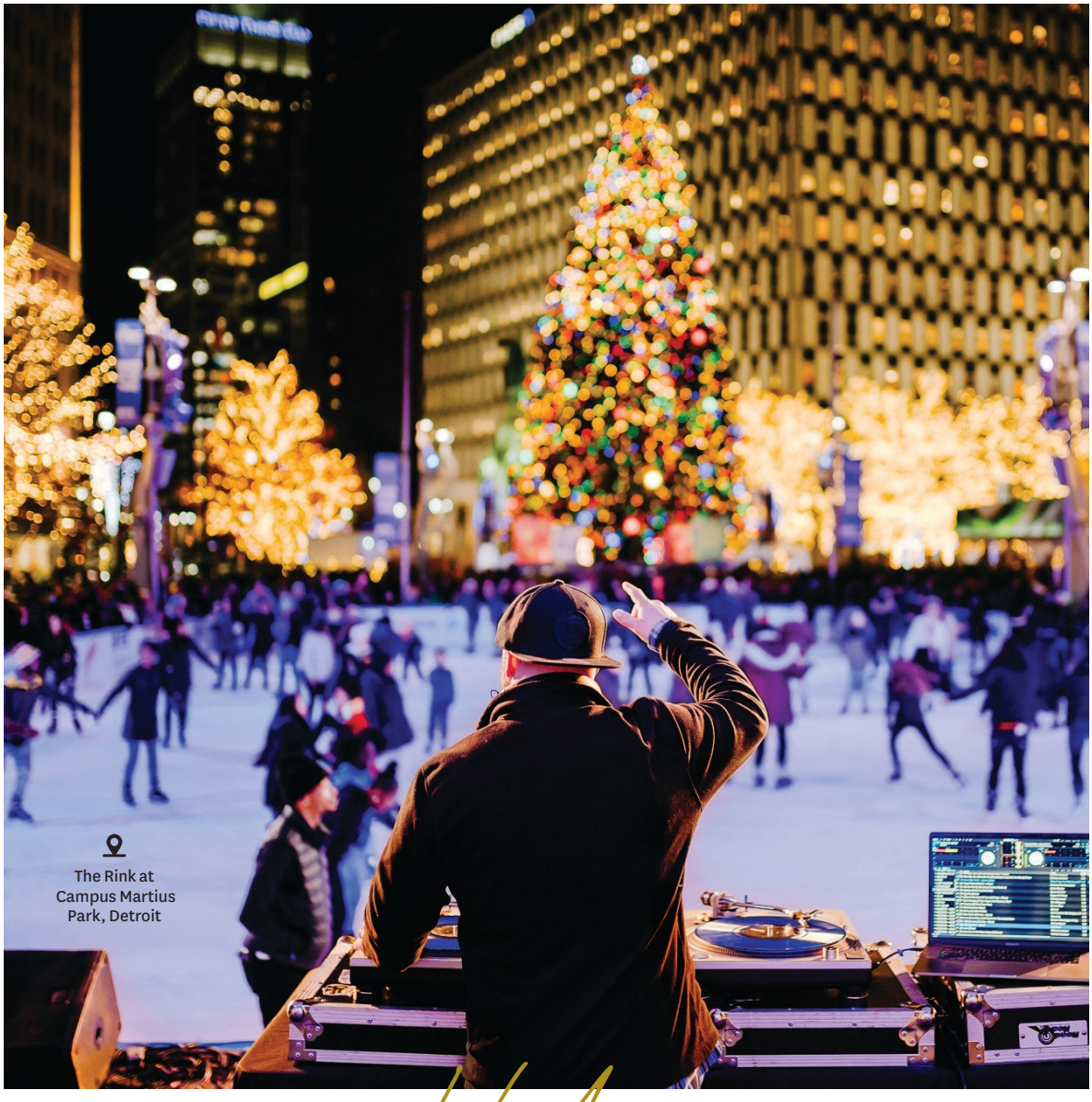
Selden Standard, Detroit

The District Detroit

PHOTOGRAPHS: (FOOD) EE BERGER, (OUTDOORS) STARBOARD AND PORT

ON THE TOWN

Spending time indoors during winter means fewer chills, but just as many *thrills*. Detroit's downtown landscape is a cultural *wonderland* of world-class museums, cuisine and lodgings. Find your *groove* in piano bars and jazz clubs, or try your luck at casinos around the state. Even in the city, you're never far from *outdoor fun* like skating, dogsledding, hiking, ice climbing, snowmobiling and luge.



The Rink at Campus Martius Park, Detroit

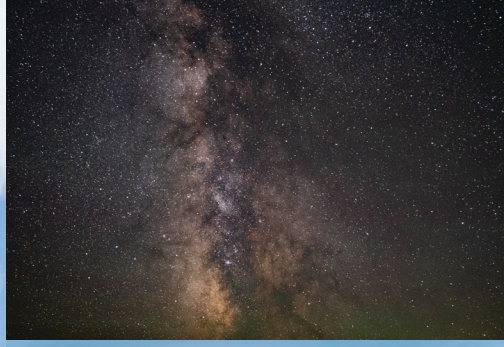
holiday

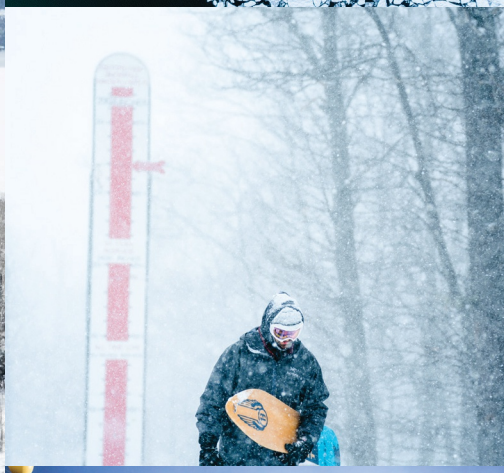
HAPPENINGS IN DETROIT

Fulfill a wish list that includes pop-up shops, an outdoor ice-skating rink and a gigantic sparkling Christmas tree.

STORY: KRISTIN BIENERT. PHOTOGRAPH: DOWNTOWN DETROIT PARTNERSHIP

ADVENTURE NORTH





KEWEENAW

VISITKEWEENAW.COM

In the heart of the city, Campus Martius Park denotes Detroit's point of origin. The park is home to the city's 60-plus-foot-tall Christmas tree, with more than 20,000 lights, and The Rink at Campus Martius Park for ice-skating. Seasonal shops sit near the 2.5-acre park. Here's how to assemble your perfect day (and night) in this lively downtown Detroit area.

8 A.M. TO MIDAFTERNOON

SAVOR A FLAVORFUL START

Breakfast and Brunch

Thick-cut sourdough and challah star on the menu at **Avalon Bakery,** while **Cannelle by Matt Knio** offers a variety of flaky croissants and delectable pastries. Snag a table at **The Hudson Cafe,** where diners will find satisfying fare like red velvet pancakes, crepes and salmon croquettes on the menu. Short on time? Grab jammy eggs and hash browns from the walk-up window at **Iggy's Eggies.** A buttery biscuit pairs with an herb and cheese frittata on the Biscuit Brekky at **Folk,** an all-day cafe and wine shop.

10 A.M. TO 4 P.M.

QUEUE UP AND RIDE THE RAIL

QLine Streetcar

Avoid the hassle of parking and take the free streetcar to some of the city's biggest attractions, such as the **Detroit Institute of Arts,** the **Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History** and the **Detroit Historical Museum.** The QLine traverses Woodward Avenue; the museums sit between the Warren and Ferry Street stations.

11 A.M. TO 10 P.M.

TAKE A SPIN UNDER THE STARS

Winter Wonderland

Rent a pair of skates at **The Rink at Campus Martius Park** and hit the ice at this outdoor skating venue that can hold up to 1,000 skaters. For one-of-a-kind gifts, pop-up shops run by small businesses can be found across the street at **Cadillac Square.**

3 P.M.

PRACTICE THE 4RS

Rest, Relax and Recharge in Renovated Hotels

Historical buildings and landmarks, like the former Detroit Fire Department Headquarters, have been reimagined into swanky downtown lodging spaces. Peek into the arched windows of the **Detroit Foundation Hotel** to see where the engines once lived. **Shinola Hotel** occupies five buildings along Woodward Avenue, including the 1936 Singer Building. A few blocks away, **The Siren** spent more than $20 million renovating the former Wurlitzer Building. **Trumbull and Porter** relied on in-state artisans and companies such as Herman Miller and Detroit Bikes during their $11 million renovation.

5 P.M. TO 10 P.M.

EAT, DRINK AND BE MERRY

Culinary Classics

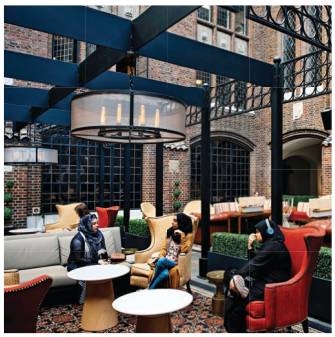
Locals love hotel restaurants like **San Morello** (Shinola) and the **The Apparatus Room** (Detroit Foundation Hotel) as much as the guests. Or pop into **La Lanterna** for a glass of red wine, house-made meatballs and a plate of Lasagna alla Bolognese. Across the street, **Leila** features small and big plates of Lebanese faves, like Batata Harra (crispy potatoes) and Shish Kafta (ground lamb).

7:30 P.M. AND LATER

HIT THE RIGHT NOTE

After-Dark Activities

Listen to live jazz at **Cliff Bell's,** an intimate Art Deco club that originally opened after Prohibition. Wednesdays through Sundays, choose from two shows; drinks, dinner and dessert additional. Always open, Detroit's three casinos **(Hollywood Casino at Greektown, MotorCity Casino-Hotel,** and **MGM Grand Detroit)** offer gaming into the wee hours—and beyond.



FROM TOP
Kresge Court, Detroit Institute of Arts; Folk; Detroit Historical Museum; Trumbull and Porter hotel; Cliff Bell's

PHOTOGRAPHS: EE BERGER, (FOOD) TAYLOR D. HIGGINS, (DETROIT HISTORICAL MUSEUM) STARBOARD AND PORT, (COCKTAIL) KEVIN J. MIYAZAKI/REDUX

CHRISTMAS TRADITIONS BEGIN HERE

Frankenmuth®

Built on tradition. Made for memories.

Experience the magic of Christmas in Michigan's Little Bavaria

Frankenmuth sparkles all-season-long with over 175 trees lit on Main Street, a spectacular 40ft singing tree with a light show, and the Frankenmuth Ice Rink in Zehnder Park. You're sure to run into Santa himself when visiting our little Winter Wonderland in Pure Michigan

Just 90 miles north of Detroit.

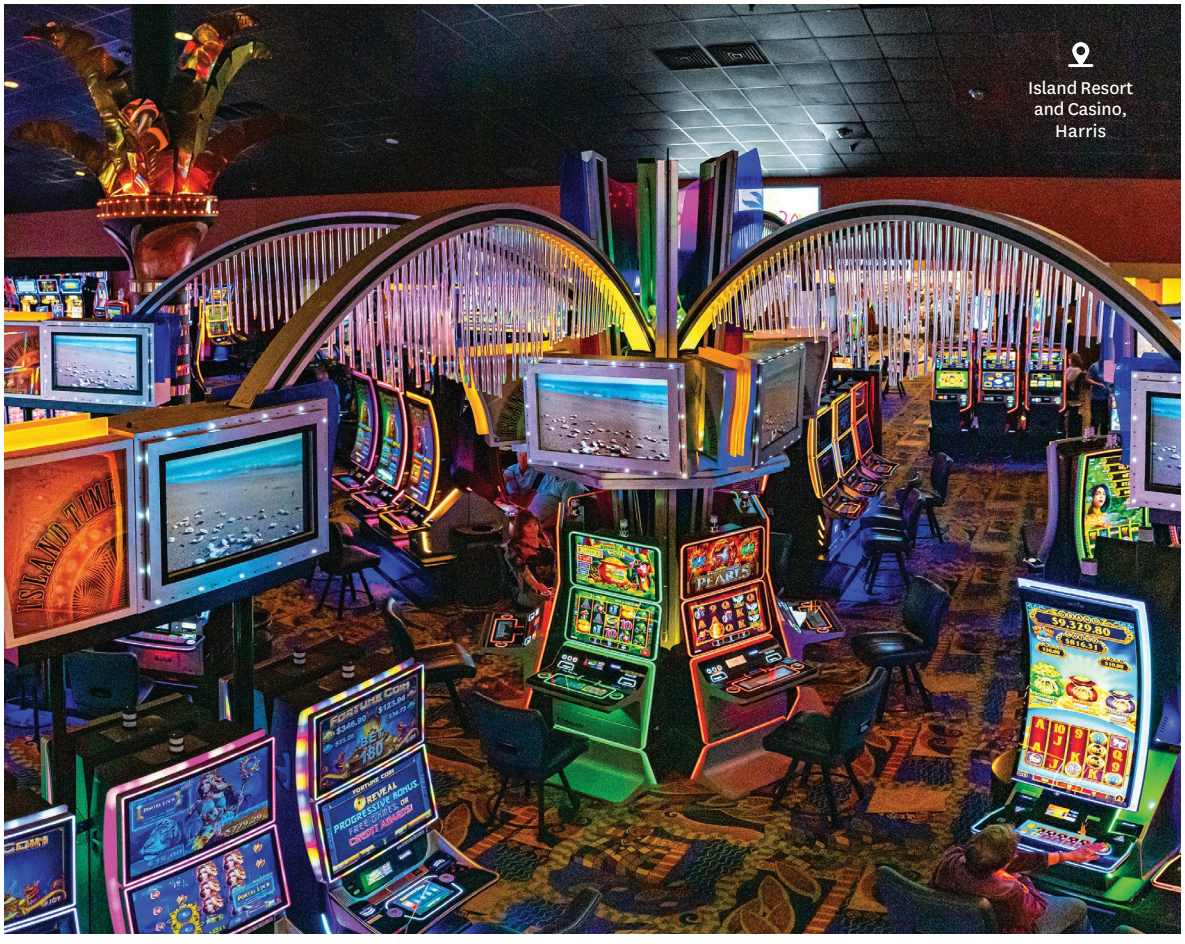
Plan your holiday vacation today at frankenmuth.org or 800-FUN-TOWN

DISCOVER MICHIGAN WITH AMTRAK

All Aboard the Wolverine®, Blue Water℠ and Pere Marquette®. Relax and ride with no middle seats. Book your Michigan adventure today.

AMTRAK MIDWEST℠

Amtrak is a registered trademark of the National Railroad Passenger Corporation.
The Wolverine, Blue Water and Pere Marquette are financed primarily through funds made available by the Michigan State Department of Transportation.



Island Resort and Casino, Harris

HIT *the* JACKPOT

Luxe accommodations and delectable dining at Michigan's nearly 30 casinos guarantee that everyone leaves a winner.

ISLAND RESORT AND CASINO
Harris

When the sound of slot machine bells grows overwhelming, slip away to the adults-only saltwater pool and sauna. Polish off a lamb rack with mint pesto at Horizons Steakhouse before a show on the main stage.

FOUR WINDS CASINOS
New Buffalo, Dowagiac and Hartford

Win big at Dowagiac or Hartford, then head to New Buffalo—the only Four Winds casino in Michigan with a hotel—to hear musicians like Get The Led Out performing October 11 at the Silver Creek Event Center.

SOARING EAGLE CASINO AND RESORT
Mt. Pleasant

Arcade game lights keep youngsters engaged at the resort's childcare center, freeing up parents to best the blackjack dealer or swim in a pool adorned with glass tiles from Italy.

FIREKEEPERS CASINO AND HOTEL
Battle Creek

Pull yourself away from the 2,900 slot machines and 70 table games long enough for a scoop of homemade ice cream at Gapi Coffee and Sweets. Energize your treat with Red Bull or boozy flavors.

TURTLE CREEK CASINO AND HOTEL
Williamsburg

Satin sheets at the recently renovated hotel envelop visitors dreaming of the casino's massive gaming floor or the rosemary-crusted prime rib served at on-site Bourbons 72 Steakhouse.

STORY: ANGELA UFHEIL. PHOTOGRAPH: COURTESY OF ISLAND RESORT AND CASINO

YOUR NEXT
STORY BEGINS
Sault Ste Marie
PURE MICHIGAN®
saultstemarie.com
800.647.2858 | 906.632.3366

12 TOP WINTER ACTIVITIES

When it comes to **SNOWY ENDEAVORS,** Michigan packs maximum **OUTDOOR EXCITEMENT** into its shores, fields, hills and cities. Pick an activity that suits your style and follow our recommendations for your next **GREAT LAKES VACATION.** Or sit back and watch passionate experts compete at area events.

WRITER TREE MEINCH

PHOTOGRAPHS: (SNOW) JASON LINDSEY, (WOMAN) RYAN DONNELL

THIS PAGE
Treetops Resort, Gaylord

OPPOSITE PAGE
Hiawatha National Forest

1 SNOWMOBILE

Do It You know a city embraces winter when it bores a snowmobiling tunnel beneath the interstate. In Sault Ste. Marie, ride your snow machine to dinner, back from the wilderness and park it at the hotel, all without opening a car door. Here you can blaze some 100 miles of groomed trails within town, then link to other routes in the surrounding area.

Watch It **The International 500 Snowmobile Race** runs late January in Sault Ste. Marie.

THIS PAGE
Snowmobiling near Munising on Michigan's Upper Peninsula

OPPOSITE PAGE
Nature's Kennel Sled Dog Racing and Adventures, McMillan; Mount Bohemia, Lac La Belle

2 DOGSLED

Do It You bring the warm layers, they bring the sled, dogs and coaching. Opt to ride as a passenger or mush your own sled at **Nature's Kennel Sled Dog Racing and Adventures** in McMillan. You can sample the fun with a 10- or 20-mile day trip, or book an immersive overnight excursion. Co-owner Ed Stielstra is an eight-time finisher in Alaska's legendary Iditarod.

Watch It The **UP200** sled dog race takes place mid-February and runs a loop from Marquette to Grand Marais.

3 CROSS-COUNTRY SKI

Do It Beyond the countless public trails, **Forbush Corner Nordic** in Frederic has bested Mother Nature by investing in snow machines and PistenBully snow groomers. This approach nearly guarantees a full season of epic cross-country conditions. Visitors can glide through 35 miles of manicured trails, access lessons and rentals, and refuel inside a new yurt.

Watch It The **White Pine Stampede** cross-country race is scheduled for early February in Mancelona.

4 LUGE

Do It Why should Olympic competitors hoard all the fun? Nearly anyone can test their skills on a real-life luge run at **Muskegon Luge Adventure Sports Park,** one of just four such public tracks in the U.S. Gear up (adaptive equipment available upon request), mind the training tips, then navigate the icy curves clocking speeds up to 30 mph.

5 BOREALIS HIKE

Do It Follow the contours of the Grand River on foot via all types of trails at **Ionia State Recreation Area.** The popular **Fred Meijer Grand River Valley Rail Trail** crosses five restored railroad bridges between Ionia and Lowell. Hardwood forests and meadows promise songs from some of the 200-plus local bird species. Watch for sightings of the rare pine marten. You can also hike under the extraordinary stars at **Headlands International Dark Sky Park,** open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year in Mackinaw City.

6 BACKCOUNTRY SKI

Do It Adrenaline-seekers travel far to bomb the chutes and cliff drops that shape **Mount Bohemia's** extreme backcountry terrain in Lac La Belle on the Keweenaw Peninsula. After surviving the half-mile forest run, skiers catch a bus instead of a chairlift at the bottom. The resort claims coveted lake-effect snowfall and the highest vertical drop in the Midwest.

PHOTOGRAPHS: (SNOWMOBILING) AARON PETERSON, (DOGSLEDDING) JASON LINDESY, (SKIER) RYAN DONNELL

7 ICE-SKATE

Do It It's never too cold to lace up skates and glide across an outdoor rink. The following spots maintain beautiful spots for perfecting your triple toe loop: **Campus Martius Park** in Detroit, with award-winning holiday lighting; **Rosa Parks Circle** in Grand Rapids, where you can reserve a spot in advance; **University of Michigan-Flint Ice Rink,** open to students and the public; **Buhr Park Outdoor Ice Arena** in Ann Arbor, which is covered and available to rent.

8 ICE CLIMB

Do It Not for the faint of heart, icy conditions draw a rare breed of adventurers to **Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore** in Munising and other UP locations. Ice axes, crampons and harnesses round out the tools of the trade for bold climbers scaling frozen waterfalls and slick cliffsides in the dead of winter.

Watch It Attend the annual **Michigan Ice Fest** (February 12–16) in Munising.

9 SNOWSHOE

Do It Opportunities to crunch your way across the snowy landscape are nearly endless, with no training necessary. Just pick a scenic park or public trail—like stunning **Empire Bluff** in **Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore**—and plan some extra trek time. Rentals are available at **Crystal Mountain** in Thompsonville and Grand Haven's **Pigeon Creek Park.** Candlelit hikes occur Fridays in January and February at **Mt. McSauba** in Charlevoix.

10 FAT-TIRE BIKE

Do It The 450 acres of frozen sand dunes at **Silver Lake State Park** shut down to motorized off-road vehicles in mid-December. In their place, fat-tire bikes get open range through mid-March. Sparkling glimpses of Lake Michigan await like a cherry on top, motivating you through the steep climbs.

Watch It The **Bell's Iceman Cometh Challenge** mountain bike race takes place the first Saturday of November in Traverse City.

11 SKI AND SNOWBOARD THE PORKIES

Do It When the snow gets real, skis and snowboards make exhilarating modes of transport within **Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park** in Ontonagon. Purchase lift tickets and rent equipment, including adaptive sit skis, at **Porkies Winter Sports Complex.** A seasonal pass here grants access to four partner resorts in Michigan.

Watch It The **Meijer State Games of Michigan Ski and Snowboard Competition** takes place in February.

PHOTOGRAPHS: AARON PETERSON, (ICE-SKATING) STARBOARD AND PORT

12 ICE FISH

Do It As temps plummet, the city of Escanaba sprouts mini villages of mobile ice fishing shanties. Local and out-of-state anglers flock to **Little Bay de Noc** and **Big Bay de Noc** for trophy walleye and a special brand of seasonal camaraderie. There's no need for a license on Michigan's free fishing weekend in mid-February.

Watch It Weather permitting, the **Gettin' Jiggy Ice Fishing Tournament** in Ludington takes place in February.

THIS PAGE
Ice fishing on Little Bay de Noc near Gladstone

OPPOSITE FROM TOP
Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore, Munising; Rosa Parks Circle, Grand Rapids

THIS PAGE
The Homestead, Glen Arbor

OPPOSITE
Crystal Mountain, Thompsonville

SKI RESORTS
AND MORE

These cold-weather destinations promise downhill thrills plus extra attractions for a total package of winter bliss.

BOYNE MOUNTAIN RESORT
Boyne Falls

The 65 downhill runs and five terrain parks barely scratch the snowy surface at this sprawling property, which is also home to one of Michigan's largest indoor water parks for a delightful contrast to the chilly outdoor elements. An on-site spa takes things to the next level with its cedar sauna, steam room and blissful massage treatments.

Nearby Fun Just to the north, **Petoskey Winter Sports Park** features a sledding hill, outdoor ice-skating and a warming center, all with no admission fees. For additional outdoor immersion, cross-country ski or hike through **Petoskey State Park.**

THE HIGHLANDS AT HARBOR SPRINGS
Harbor Springs

Visit this winter and reach the top of the slopes via Camelot 6, a six-person, first-of-its-kind-in-the-Midwest bubble chairlift that features heated seats, a protective enclosure and the fastest lift in the state. The full-service resort truly centers on the family, with daylong kids' camps, plus nightly campfires and s'mores.

Nearby Fun Nine miles away, you can eat, play and drink at expansive **Pond Hill Farm.** Savor delicious ingredients grown on-site in their beer, cider and pizza, then explore the groomed trails via snowshoe, fat bikes or cross-country skis.

TREETOPS RESORT
Gaylord

As soon as the snow falls, this golfing mecca transforms into a buffet of winter activity. Skier or not, everyone in your group can find an outdoor experience to love: Extreme tubing, dogsledding and sleigh rides are on the menu. For the culinary palate, unwind in multiple cozy taverns or a refined Michigan whiskey bar.

Nearby Fun New bucket list item: winter rafting in nearby Wolverine. **Sturgeon River Paddlesports** guides visitors on surreal floats through snowy tunnels of cedar trees, ice shelves and serene stillness.

SHANTY CREEK RESORT
Bellaire

You can hit three terrain parks all before supping and sipping the night away at The Lakeview restaurant, aptly named for its picturesque perch above Lake Bellaire. The 5,000-plus-acre resort specializes in custom reservation packages tailored to group size and interests.

Nearby Fun Venture into downtown Bellaire for a memorable round of mead at **Bee Well Mead and Cider,** clothing and home goods at **Uniquely North,** or a seasonal brew at **Short's Brewing.**

CRYSTAL MOUNTAIN
Thompsonville

Don't shed the ski bibs and layers until after a horse-drawn surrey ride through town, hot cocoa included. Then restore your body with a steamy soak in the resort's year-round outdoor hot tub. The mountain's activities have grown since the first chairlift was airlifted in from Switzerland more than 60 years ago.

Nearby Fun Every snowfall transforms nearby **Michigan Legacy Art Park** into a wonderland, where 2 miles of trails weave through dozens of sculptures and a wooded preserve.

THE HOMESTEAD
Glen Arbor

This waterfront property neighboring Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore was purchased in 1924 to become a camp for outdoor experiences. After 100 years, it's evolved into a string of neighborhoods, trails, idyllic beaches, ski slopes and unique lodging. Plan extra time at the top of the slopes to gaze at the Lake Michigan view.

Nearby Fun The 65 miles of shoreline at **Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore** includes 26 inland lakes, plus Lake Michigan. Together they make up the largest freshwater dune system in the world.

PHOTOGRAPHS: RYAN DONNELL

THIS PAGE
Shady Lane Cellars, Suttons Bay

OPPOSITE
Black Star Farms, Suttons Bay

Sipping in a Winter Wonderland

A TREK THROUGH **SNOW-COVERED VINEYARDS** LEADS TO TASTING ROOMS AND OUTDOOR DELIGHTS ALONG THE TRAVERSE WINE COAST.

WRITER ANDREA MINARCEK JESSUP

PHOTOGRAPHS: EE BERGER

Welcome to Wine Country

Traverse City is a gateway to some 50 wineries, thanks to the region's fertile soil and prime placement along the 45th Parallel, which aligns with some of Europe's most famed and acclaimed wine regions, including France's Bordeaux and Italy's Piedmont. Nearby Lake Michigan helps, too, moderating the climate and protecting against early frosts. Even when the winter weather does arrive, there's still plenty of fun to be had. Wineries throughout the area's Old Mission Peninsula and Leelanau Peninsula are laced with groomed trails ripe for snowshoeing and cross-country skiing, with cozy tasting rooms to warm up in after.

Choose Your Own Adventure

WINERIES WITH WINTER TRAILS

A number of Traverse City-area wineries host guided outdoor snow excursions on weekends (see Plan Ahead, *next page*), but if you visit midweek—or you're simply in the mood for some impromptu exercise—you're still in luck. **45 North Vineyard and Winery's** groomed 3-mile trail is free and open for cross-country skiers, snowshoers and fat-tire bike cyclists to use every day. The route climbs through woods between the lower and upper vineyards and ends at the tasting room, an Instagram-worthy, hand-hewn, wood-beam barn, where you can sample their award-winning red blend and Pinot Blanc. Two miles south, **Blustone Vineyards** has equally picturesque snowshoe and cross-country ski trails, along with a 50-minute guided wine-tasting experience with small plates (weather permitting; closed Tuesdays and Wednesdays). Closer to Traverse City, snowshoeing **Rove Winery** at the Gallagher Estate's self-guided trail grants panoramic views and bragging rights: Rove Estate sits at 1,165 feet, the highest point in Leelanau County. You can make a longer excursion on the groomed, beginner-friendly Leelanau Trail, which stretches 17 miles through forests and orchards and past lakes and wineries along a former railroad route.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP
Black Star Farms, Suttons Bay (2); Shady Lane Cellars, Suttons Bay; Farm Club, Traverse City

MICHIGAN RANKS IN THE TOP 10 IN NUMBER OF WINERIES (233 IN 2023) IN THE UNITED STATES.

WINE BUSINESS MONTHLY

PHOTOGRAPHS: EE BERGER, (SNOWSHOERS) COURTESY OF BLACK STAR FARMS, (MUG) MIKE GILGER

Plan Ahead

EVENTS AND TOURS

OLD MISSION SNOWSHOE, WINE AND BREW
During the three-day holiday weekends (Martin Luther King and Presidents' Day)

Call it a three-taste tour: First, park your car at **Jolly Pumpkin Traverse City** and hop a ride with the friendly TC Brew Bus crew to **Old Mission Distilling** for a boozy hot or cold cider by the firepit. Second, snowshoe half an hour north to **Bowers Harbor Vineyards.** Third, trek 20 minutes back to your car at Jolly Pumpkin Traverse City for a beer. ***Cost:*** $36/person, including parking and bus shuttle service; one highball or cider with rum or whiskey at Old Mission Distilling; one glass of wine at Bowers Harbor Vineyards; and an Old Mission beer, cider or seltzer at the Peninsula Room next to Jolly Pumpkin; $15 snowshoe rental or BYO snowshoes.

VINE TO WINE SNOWSHOE TOUR
Saturdays from January through March (snow dependent)

Guides lead small groups along a private valley trail to three Leelanau wineries: **Suttons Bay Ciders, Ciccone Vineyard and Winery** and **Big Little Wines.** ***Cost:*** $79/person, including snowshoe and pole rental, catered hot lunch, and van support; wine tastings an additional $7–$10 per person, per tasting.

SNOWSHOE, VINES AND WINES
Saturdays throughout winter, plus an occasional Sunday in February

Dogs are welcome, and trail access is free at **Black Star Farms,** where you can snowshoe a 3-mile network of easy to moderate terrain, then warm up with mulled cherry wine on the heated patio. ***Cost:*** $25 snowshoe rental or BYO; $15 for a flight of four wines or glasses of wine between $7 and $11.

SIP AND SKI
Select Sundays in January and February

Glide along the groomed Leelanau Trail with a guide on a 5.1-mile cross-country-ski and wine-tasting outing between **Shady Lane Cellars** and **Farm Club,** which serves up bowls of their signature Bon Fuego fire-roasted stew. ***Cost:*** $98/person with ski rental or $68/person if you bring your own skis, including optional transportation to the starting point. Or guests can choose to ski the 5.1-mile return.

Prices are subject to change.

50+ MILE ORV
SCENIC
RIDE

CADILLAC
VISITORS
BUREAU
MICHIGAN
RIDECADILLAC.COM

200+ MILE
GROOMED, REGIONAL
SNOWMOBILE
TRAIL NETWORK

Get Your Gear Here

In Traverse City, pick up trail maps and rent snowshoes and cross-country skis for adults and kids alike at **Brick Wheels.** Already up north? No problem. **Suttons Bay Bikes,** midway up the Leelanau Peninsula, also rents snowshoes, cross-country skis and fat-tire bikes. ***Cost:*** **Brick Wheels:** ski and snowshoe rentals from $20/day for kids and $30/day for adults. **Suttons Bay Bikes:** snowshoe rentals from $25/day, ski rentals from $30/day, and fat-tire bike rentals from $20/hour.

Spend the Night

The key to a good hotel in Traverse City is easy walking access to downtown restaurants and the waterfront. (Yep, even in winter it's worth a bundled-up stroll.) You'll find both needs satisfied at **Hotel Indigo Traverse City** and nearby **Delamar Traverse City,** where rooms come with access to the indoor heated pool and complimentary s'mores supplies for the firepit.

Sample Ice Wine

Made from grapes partially frozen on the vine, ice wine is a must-try treat on a Mitten State wine tour. (Most other vineyard regions in the United States don't get cold enough to make this version of vino.) Ice-wine grapes must be picked when the temperature dips to or slightly below 18 degrees—cold enough to freeze water in the grapes but not the sugars, lending the final libation a uniquely sweet flavor. Taste for yourself at a number of Traverse City area wineries, including **Chateau Chantal** on the Old Mission Peninsula and **Black Star Farms** tasting rooms in Suttons Bay and Old Mission Peninsula.

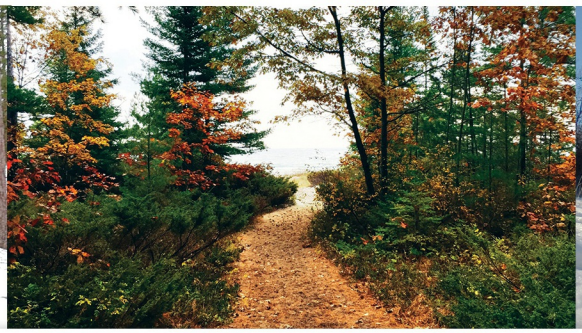
PHOTOGRAPH: COURTESY OF DELAMAR TRAVERSE CITY

#LightTherapy

Daybreak welcomes the sun, and evening brings out the moon and stars; the Alpena area is centrally located to 3 State of Michigan Dark Sky Preserve Parks, inspiring stargazers through all 4 seasons.

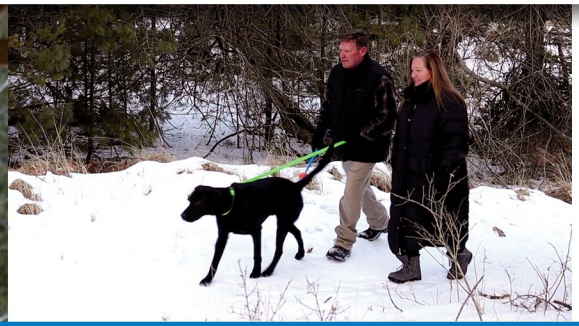
Sanc'tu·ar'y (sangk-ch$\overline{oo}$-er-ee) n., pl - ies

1. A sacred place; 2. An escape from the stress of everyday life; 3. Where one leaves their cares behind to relax, restore, and rejuvenate. **4. Alpena, Michigan**



#TrailTherapy Adventure along 100+ miles of groomed hiking, biking, skiing, and snowshoeing trails.

#AquaTherapy Explore 1,000 miles of coastline, nearly 200 shipwrecks, and famous fishing lakes.



Alpena
MICHIGAN

Sanctuary of the Great Lakes

VisitAlpena.com